

# THE WORKMAN



Richard W. Bullard, GHP Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California

**SEPTEMBER 2020**

**Vol. XII No. 2**

<b>GHP MESSAGE</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>THE CLOTHES LINE</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>RECEPTIONS</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>THE ENCOMPASSER</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>GRAND SESSIONS 2020</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S CALENDAR</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>GRAND LECTURER</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>TAX REPORTING</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>BOOK REVIEW – <u>THE CRAFT</u></b>	<b>4</b>	<b>CONTACT INFORMATION</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>OTHER BOOK REVIEWS</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>SECRETARY ESSENTIALS</b>	<b>9 – 10</b>
<b>GRACE DEE MUSEUM</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>GRAND SESSION RESULTS</b>	<b>11 -- 12</b>
<b>COMPTCHE --- 2021</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>GRACE DEE MUSEUM GIFT SHOP</b>	<b>13 -- 14</b>
<b>SECRETARY ESSENTIALS</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>VIRTUAL RECEPTION GUIDELINES</b>	<b>15 – 16</b>
<b>GOLDEN STATE RESEARCH CHAPTER</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>ANNUAL COMMUNICATIONS</b>	<b>17 -- 18</b>
<b>GRAND CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIPS</b>	<b>6</b>		

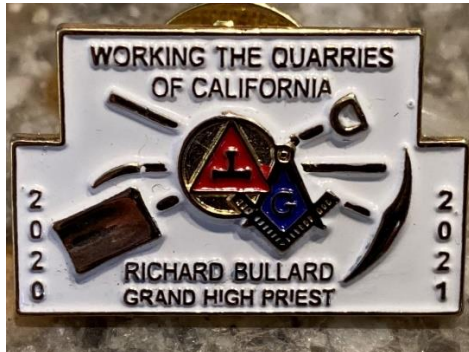
## Grand High Priest's Message

Companions,

Here we are in September. The Summer months of going “dark” so families can go on vacations before the kids go back to school or to avoid the heat of the Lodge Room and having to don the Red Jacket and tie are past. Our Chapter Officers have normally begun to think about advancement to the next chair in the progressive line and Dais Officers to begin completing the questions the District Inspectors will be “requesting” before Installation can take place. The normal activities each Chapter goes through in the Capitular year. Even anticipating the approach of cooler Fall breezes wafting thru the open windows. Sigh! To quote a famous movie line, “SNAP OUT OF IT!!!” We all wish for what seems like the Old Days! My Companions, as you are all aware, we have a probable long time before things will be like that. So, your Grand Officers are meeting and discussing how to move forward. My first Directive has been released allowing us to meet Virtually with some restrictions. The Department Grand Officers are qualifying the Deputy Grand Lecturers and District Inspectors to open Chapters in Ample form. One Chapter is working on a method to Elect Officers for the next Capitular year. Grand Chapter had a Virtual Installation that will be the model for

Chapters to do the same. So while not the “NORMAL” way of doing things, we are attempting to provide ways to still run our Chapters and be ready for the day when we are allowed to meet as Masons have always done.

In my last Workman article, I promised to discuss further the specific objects on this year’s Lapel Pin. So, let’s look at the Working Tools that are there:



These Symbols are the Crow, the Pickaxe and the Spade. The HP directs the candidates to use these tools to clear the area where other skilled workmen may commence their specified jobs.

*By them the candidate 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.*

I believe a brief explanation of the word Symbol should be discussed here. Author, Robert L.D. Cooper, of the Grand Lodge of AF & A Masons of Scotland, in his book “The Rosslyn Myth?” discusses the difference between signs and symbols. He writes, ...a sign is something that is intended to convey information unambiguously, e.g. ‘road work ahead’... that ahead there is a hole in the road. ... No other interpretation is needed.” “A Symbol on the other hand exists to convey an intangible, a concept, an idea, a belief, something spiritual, etc. Unlike a sign, is it intended to work on several levels...”

I will Discuss the motto “Working the Quarries of California” next month.

I would like to congratulate the Peninsula York Rite Bodies Association for the VIRTUAL 4 Way Reception they conceived, developed, planned and executed on August 22. All involved did an outstanding job. A good time was had by everyone that attended. Well done my Companions!

I would be remiss if I did not mention the ongoing fires in California, particularly those centered around Santa Cruz, Sonoma, Napa and Mendocino Counties and other areas. Our prayers and thoughts are with you during these horrible disasters. Pray for California. Support our Fire Fighters!

Also, please keep Right Eminent Cirilo Marquez and his family in your prayers as they grieve the loss of Lady Julieta. Donations can be made at [www.ktef.org](http://www.ktef.org), Knights Templar Eye Foundation, in her memory.

Thank you all for the work you do, for your involvement in your Chapters and your faith in each other.

See you down the Road!

Fraternally,  
Richard W. Bullard, KYGCH  
166<sup>th</sup> Grand High Priest  
Royal Arch Masons of California

## **RECEPTIONS**

At the end of this newsletter you will find guidelines for putting on a Virtual Reception for the Grand Presiding Officers. You are not obliged to follow these guidelines, but they will prove useful to you as a planner if you have never staged such an event before.

The Palo Alto bodies have already hosted a 4-Way Reception, and Siminoff is close behind, with the North Bay later in the year. These events are a great opportunity for you and our overall membership to meet and greet the Grand Officers, including the Grand Master, M. W. John Trauner, who doesn't yet suffer from "ZOOM Fatigue."!! As he explained at the Palo Alto event, the Annual Communication will be virtual on October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. See his letter at the end of this newsletter for details.

If you wish to attend the virtual reception at the Siminoff bodies, please contact Bruce Rick at [bar972@outlook.com](mailto:bar972@outlook.com) . If

you wish to attend the North bay reception on October 24<sup>th</sup>, please contact Rich Fonseca at [richfonseca@yahoo.com](mailto:richfonseca@yahoo.com).

## **GRAND SESSIONS 2020**

The new 2020 officers and results of the awards and the legislation are published in the Souvenir Program, now available as a PDF file. You can find this on the website at

[http://yorkriteofcalifornia.org/council/pdf/2020\\_Grand\\_Session\\_Book.pdf](http://yorkriteofcalifornia.org/council/pdf/2020_Grand_Session_Book.pdf)

or get a digital copy via email from your Chapter Secretary. The results are also published at the end of this newsletter.

Grand Sessions for 2021 are now scheduled for May 15-20, 2021. Mark your calendar now: Grand Chapter will meet on Monday the 17<sup>th</sup>; Grand Council on Tuesday the 18<sup>th</sup>; and Grand Commandery on Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup>. The Corporation will meet the morning of the 20<sup>th</sup>.

## GRAND LECTURER

### Companions All

September still finds us mostly confined to quarters; but we Are finding ways to Get'R'done! despite the pandemic! For those that attended the virtual 4-Way Peninsula reception on August 22nd, you can see that we were able to find novel ways to continue practicing our profession as Masons! Many thanks to those brave Companions that made it happen in fine fashion for the first time ever! Expect more of these events in future months until we are able to get out and about again! When you receive this edition of the Workman, you should also see the approved ritual for conducting virtual meetings, tiled and untiled, a guideline for reception introductions from the Grand Scribe and the updated guidelines for organizing and conducting receptions! Our goal is to make it as easy as possible to conduct business and bring ourselves back together again in anticipation of renewed face-to-face meetings! There is work ongoing (call it beta testing) to allow balloting on officers and candidates in the very near future without violating the anonymity of the ballot box we expect as Masons. It is hard to do this virtually without great expense to the Chapters for the software; but I expect that we can find a method that will be very close to the ballot box we know without its physical presence! Please work with the ritual staff and your Department Grand Officers (who dat?) to schedule your virtual Convocations now; so that we can rebuild those connections we so desire as Royal Arch Masons! All the Best from your Most Humble and currently Cloistered Grand Lecturer!

Steve

## BOOK REVIEW

### The Craft, by John Dickie

This new release was reviewed by *Alex Beam* in the Wall Street Journal of August 23, 2020. Following are a few excerpts from that lengthy review:

“How did the Masonic All-Seeing Eye end up on the dollar bill? (It’s complicated but the men responsible for the 1935 currency redesign, Pres Roosevelt and Ag Secretary Henry Wallace, were both Masons.) ...In the early 1960s, one in every 12 American adult males was a member... Did Freemasons really make the modern world, as Mr. Dickie’s subtitle claims?... Are they the hidden watchmakers who set the clock of history or just silly men prancing around in leather aprons reciting not-so-secret words like ‘Boaz,’ the name of one of the entrance pillars of Solomon’s Temple?... By the end of this convincingly researched and thoroughly entertaining book, the discerning reader will conclude: a little of one, and some of the other. The fraternal organization traces its roots to 16<sup>th</sup>-century Scotland... The society embraced the masons’ ‘symbology’: the compass, the planner’s T-square and the capital “G”. ... Masonry has many attractions....The group accepts ‘brethren upon the same level,’ a play on words that ideally welcomes the nobleman and the nobody as equals....In 18<sup>th</sup>-century America ... Freemasonry became a ‘religion of state.’ Its principles harmonized with the USA’s inborn sense that it stood for something bigger than its own particular national identity... Masonry has rewritten its history at least twice, once to trace its lineage back to 4000 B.C. Cain and Noah were among the first Masons, the society’s 1723 Constitution declared, and the Israelites ‘were a whole Kingdom of Masons, well instructed,

under the Conduct of their GRAND MASTER MOSES.’ ... Today the Craft seems to be sputtering. American membership has declined from four million in the mid-1960s to one million in 2017.”

## OTHER BOOK REVIEWS

Our own Bruce Pruitt has reviewed two new books recently in the KT Magazine, that will be of interest to many: The 5-Minute Ritualist, by Kim March; and The Persecution of the Knights Templar, by Alan Demurger. You can find the review of the 5-Minute Ritualist book on page 34 of the May 2020 edition; and the review of The Persecution on page 34 of the September 2020 edition.

## GRACE DEE MUSEUM

As you may recall from earlier articles in this newsletter, our Past Grand High Priest, Sean Foran, has participated in the establishment of this museum. A new online gift shop has been created, and the information about it is included at the end of this edition.

## COMPTCHE-2021

The Festival at Comptche, originally set for June 27<sup>th</sup> this year, 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 Capitular Festival will be on June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

## SECRETARY ESSENTIALS

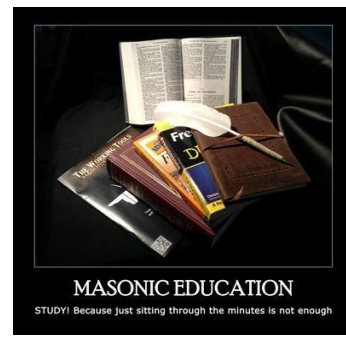
Secretaries new and old: near the end of this newsletter you will find a two-page document that serves as guidelines for Secretaries and Records – especially new ones.

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/cagyrf/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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 are now 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 2, 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](mailto: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](http://www.mpenterprises.weebly.com); or  
 directly to his email at  
[maxluy@hotmail.com](mailto: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 April 2020.pdf](http://yorkriteofcalifornia.org/encompasser%20issues/Encompasser%20April%202020.pdf)

## GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S CALENDAR

### SEPTEMBER 2020 – MAY 2021

Date	Event	Location
Last Monday	OSI, 921 Masonic District	7:00 pm
Second Tuesday	Past Masters Meeting	11:00 am to 1:00 pm
Second Tuesdays	Exec Comm	Virtual at 6:00 pm
Second Tuesday	San Diego Commandery	7:00 pm
First Wednesday	San Diego Scottish Rite	6:00 pm
Fourth Thursday	San Diego Chapter and Council	7:00 pm
First Friday	San Diego Lodge #35	6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Sept 5	3-Way Reception	Siminoff, Virtual at 10:00 am
Oct 10-11	Annual Communication, Grand Lodge	Virtual at 10:00 am
Oct 24	3-Way Reception	North Bay Virtual

Nov 21	General Grand Chapter Triennial	Virtual at Noon
March 12 – 13, 2021	Officers' Conference	Visalia
May 16, 2021	Grand Banquet	Visalia, 6:00 pm
May 17, 2021	Grand Chapter	Visalia, 8:00 am
May 18, 2021	Grand Council	Visalia, 8:00 am
May 19, 2021	Grand Commandery	Visalia, 8:00 am
May 20, 2021	Grand YR Corporation	Visalia, 8:00 am

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 is willing to assist Chapters with guidance to restore their tax exempt status, if needed. 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](mailto:rozekroy@gmail.com)

## **GRAND CHAPTER CONTACT INFORMATION**

(562) 924-6500(W) x 1001  
(916) 844-8252(C)  
[Tom.Krummell@gmail.com](mailto:Tom.Krummell@gmail.com)

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[philipandnancy@aol.com](mailto:philipandnancy@aol.com)

### **Grand Secretary:**

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1123 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
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(916) 712-4814(C)  
[sec-rec@yorkriteofcalifornia.org](mailto:sec-rec@yorkriteofcalifornia.org)

### **Websites:**

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

**GOLDEN STATE CHAPTER OF RESEARCH**  
**Website:**

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

### **Assistant Grand Secretary:**

Tom Krummell, KYCH  
1123 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**GRAND SESSIONS, FORMS & SCHEDULES**  
**Website:**

[WWW.CA-GYRS.ORG](http://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](http://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 31<sup>st</sup>.
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 15<sup>th</sup>, 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 15<sup>th</sup>, 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.

**GRAND YORK RITE OF CALIFORNIA**

**LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

**William H. "Doc" Harmon III  
High Desert Chapter No. 127**

**GRAND CHAPTER ROYAL ARCH MASONS - 2020 GRAND CONVOCATION REPORT**

Grand High Priest.....	Richard W. Bullard, San Diego No. 61
Grand King .....	Raymond A. Broomfield, Ventura No. 50
Grand Treasurer .....	Leland G. Routt, Stockton No. 2
Grand Secretary .....	Philip A. Hardiman, PGHP, Sacramento No. 3
Grand Lecturer .....	Steven R. Goad, PGHP, Norris C. Viles No. 153
Grand Chaplain North.....	Phillip W. Sugg, Gold Country No. 11
Grand Chaplain South .....	Gary M. Creason, San Diego No. 61
Assistant Grand Secretary .....	Thomas A. Krummell, Gold Country No. 11
Grand Scribe .....	R. Scott Husmann, Gold Country No. 11
Grand Captain of the Host.....	Thomas C. Chavez, California No. 1
Grand Principal Sojourner.....	David E. Sokol, Shasta No. 9
Grand Royal Arch Captain.....	David G. Rathgeber, Triangle No. 155
Grand Master, Third Veil.....	John P. Dilley, Santa Monica Bay No. 97
Grand Master, Second Veil.....	Richard M. Villegas, High Desert No. 127
Grand Master, First Veil.....	Christopher N. Radcliffe, Tyre No. 130
Grand Orator .....	W. Austin Swank, San Diego No. 61
Grand Marshal North .....	Rollie Q. Caabay, Naval No. 35
Grand Marshal South.....	Thomas R. Handell, Triangle No. 155
Grand Musician .....	R. Aaron Bullard, San Diego No. 61
Grand Soloist .....	Thomas E. Colgan, Triangle No. 155
Grand Sentinel .....	John E. Trexel, San Diego No. 61

**GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER ROYAL ARCH MASONS INTERNATIONAL AWARDS**

**EPHRAIM KIRBY AWARD**

**Richard D. Baskin .....** San Diego Chapter No. 61

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL IN BRONZE**

**Gary M. Iverson .....** Whittier Chapter No. 91, Long Beach No. 84

**SWEETHEART AWARD**

**None**

**GRAND CHAPTER ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF CALIFORNIA AWARDS**

**GRAND HIGH PRIEST DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL**

<b>David G. Rathgeber.....</b>	<b>Triangle Chapter No. 155</b>
<b>Marion P. Rogers.....</b>	<b>Doric Chapter No. 66</b>
<b>Steven M. Fowler.....</b>	<b>Stockton Chapter No. 2</b>
<b>Ronald W. Alcorn .....</b>	<b>San Gabriel Valley Chapter No. 100</b>

**HIGH PRIEST OF THE YEAR**

High Priest the Year for the State **Marty Cusing** ..... California Chapter No. 1  
..... King Solomon’s Chapter No. 95  
High Priest of the Year Department #2. . . . **Jon Huffine**.....Woodland Chapter No. 46  
High Priest of the Year Department #5 **Steve Lerner**.....Triangle Chapter No. 155

**SECRETARY OF THE YEAR**

Secretary for the State **Robert V. Wright, Jr**..... Oxnard Chapter No. 86  
  
Secretary of the Year Department #1 **John Williams** ..... Salinas Chapter No. 59  
Secretary of the Year Department #2 **Patrick Andersen** ..... Red Bluff Chapter No. 40  
Secretary of the Year Department #4 **Ron W. Alcorn III**..... San Gabriel Valley Chapter No. 100  
Secretary of the Year Department #5 **W. Austin Swank**..... San Diego Chapter No. 61

**DISTINGUISHED MEMBERSHIP AWARD**

**Robert K. Geiger**..... Whittier Chapter No. 91  
**Joseph K. Dongo**..... Sacramento Chapter No. 3

**MEMBERSHIP EXCELLENCE AWARD**

**W. Austin Swank** ..... San Diego Chapter No. 61  
  
Chapter with the highest percentage increase in membership (15.7%) ... **Petaluma Chapter No. 22**  
  
Chapter with the highest number of exaltations (16)..... **Signet Chapter No. 57**

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**RUSSELL D. ROBERTS PERPETUAL TROPHY**

**Lynn Wallingford**..... Oxnard Chapter No. 86

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**GRAND LECTURER’S RITUAL MEDAL**

**Anthony T. “Tony” Yuson** .....Ancient Chapter No. 31  
**Lee P. Whelan**..... Riverside Chapter No. 67  
**R. Scott Husmann** ..... Gold Country Chapter No. 11

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**RESOLUTIONS**

**Resolution 2020-1 To change ritual to Open a Chapter with 6-8** ..... **Passed**  
**Resolution 2020-2 To cleanup sections of the Constitution** ..... **Passed**  
**Resolution 2020-3 To increase per capita by \$3.00** ..... **Passed**  
**Resolution 2020-4 To revise purpose of GHP Chapter and issue Bylaws** ..... **Passed**



# "THE COOLEST MASONIC MERCHANDISE"

SHOP NOW

Hold down the CTRL Key and click on the button above

**T-Shirts, Hats, Posters & More!**

*Shop 'til you drop 24/7  
and shipping is FREE*

[www.gracedeemay.org/gift-ideas](http://www.gracedeemay.org/gift-ideas)

The Grace Dee May Museum

Illuminates the

Legacy of the West

with apparel and gifts that showcase  
the unique contributions of Freemasonry



You're invited to visit the newly opened Gift Shop and view exclusive items including: T-shirts, Ball Caps, Posters, Buttons, Mouse Pads, and more. Created just for you by the Grace Dee May Museum and as a special gift –  
**SHIPPING IS FREE!**  
Hold down the CTRL Key and click on the button below:

[SHOP NOW](#)

# Guidelines for a VIRTUAL 3/4-Way Reception: How to do it well!

- Host must arrange, develop the Virtual invitation and distribute to all guests.
- Expected dress: Appropriate Jackets, Term ties, lapel pins, Collar and Jewel. Communicate this in the invitation!
- Prepare the agenda and distribute with the invitation electronically at least 1 week prior to the Actual Meeting date.
- Meeting Host check waiting room for virtual admission and verification of guests. Plan at least 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the Reception.
- Master of Ceremonies – Welcome and statement of purpose for the reception.
- Honorary Chaplain - INVOCATION – No altar or Bible is required for the reception!
- Designated Officer - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE OR National Anthem (Ensure that you have a picture of the flag of our country with 50 stars that can be displayed onscreen!)
- Master of Ceremonies or his Designated Officer introduces non-Grand York Rite Officers in attendance, e.g. special guests, Eastern Star, Scottish Rite, Shrine, White Shrine, Youth Group leaders, etc.
- Master of Ceremonies – introduce first Grand York Rite Head of Body to all OR (**preferred**) the Grand Officer in charge of introductions for that Grand Body (note that this is a **Requirement** for introductions of the Grand Master of Masons)! Order of speaking should be either Royal Arch, Council, Commandery and Grand Master OR Council, Commandery, Royal Arch and Grand Master as desired by the Master of Ceremonies. Please inform the Grand Heads of Bodies which order they will be speaking Before the Reception begins!
- Grand Head of Body Speaking - should ask one of his Grand Officers (usually one of the Grand Marshals in attendance) if not already recognized by the Master of Ceremonies to do the introduction of the Grand Head of Body Speaking **After** introducing the Current and Past Grand Officers present along with the DGLs and Inspectors (ritual staff as appropriate) in attendance either Before his remarks (**preferred**) or After his remarks (also OK). Don't forget to do these introductions!! Grand Head of Body Speaking then proceeds to deliver his remarks in full.
- Master of Ceremonies – After thanking the speaker, he can ask for questions for that Grand Head of Body and/or Introduces the presiding officer of each sponsoring constituent body present (including Blue Lodge Masters when it is the GM turn) and calls upon each one in turn with the host constituent bodies last in each group to make whatever virtual presentation (arranged IN ADVANCE) they have for the Grand Head of Body Speaking. Don't forget to include the Grand Master in these presentations! This would include charitable donations to the

charities of that Body if appropriate AND gifts for the lady of the Grand Head of Body Speaking if desired.

- Grand Head of Body Speaking – makes his presentations (virtually) back to each presiding officer and his spouse (if present or otherwise desired) or the senior officer present from that constituent body and his lady (if present). Once all exchanges have been made virtually, he announces that his part is complete.
- Master of Ceremonies – Introduces the next Head of Body Speaking or the Grand Officer in charge of introductions for that body (**preferred**). Repeat the procedure above for each Grand York Rite Body present. If there is a musical interlude, the Master of Ceremonies will introduce the interlude per the announced agenda and ask for appreciation of the performers. If the Grand Master of Masons is speaking (not just in attendance as a guest), then ensure that all thanks and acknowledgements for putting on the event are done **Before** the Grand Master is introduced!
- Master of Ceremonies – wraps up with thanks for the folks that made the reception possible, don't forget the Host of the virtual meeting IF the Grand Master of Masons is Not speaking (otherwise done before the introduction of the Grand Master of Masons). Finally, introduce the Chaplain for the Benediction. Adjourn!

Notes:

- Dress Code: The invitation will set the appropriate dress code for the event. The Master of Ceremonies should be dressed for Blue Lodge unless he is presenting as the presiding officer of one of the constituent bodies in attendance. All presenting officers should be dressed as the Grand Head of Body they are supporting prescribes. Changing coats and ties for each segment of the program is acceptable if desired, but not necessary unless presenting on behalf of that body. The Grand Officers and presenting Officers should be dressed as prescribed by the Grand Head of Body they are representing; coat, tie and jewel to match the Grand Head of Body's desires. All other officers and members will wear the respective coat and tie of the constituent body they wish to represent. It is desirable to change coat, tie and uniform if presenting for more than one constituent body.
- Setup of Lodge Room if utilized for pictorial ceremonial purposes will be with Constituent Body Banners (Chapter, Council, Commandery, Blue Lodge, as desired, AMD, etc.). Altar will be draped with an altar cloth with a Closed Bible surmounting, (if desired for viewing).



## **Announcing Changes to 2020 Annual Communication August 11, 2020**

Brethren,

The 2019–2020 Masonic year has been drastically different than what any of us expected. Through this pandemic we have had to experience Freemasonry from a distance, learn to connect with our brothers digitally, and lead our communities through an unprecedented time in our lives. And yet our Masonic fellowship has never been stronger. We have found new ways of working together, shown record-breaking generosity, and—I would argue—flexed even more Masonic muscle than in a normal year.

In light of this ongoing pandemic and the related restrictions, I am announcing that our 2020 Annual Communication will be a virtual event, taking place on the same weekend in October as originally planned. We hope you will all make time to join us for a first-class virtual event that allows us to do the important business of our grand lodge, recognize the good work California Masons have accomplished this year, and transition our leadership, all while following laws and practices to keep our members healthy.

To facilitate a virtual Annual Communication, I will make at least two Grand Master's decisions, which I will publish in due time. Due to the virtual nature of the event, we will open Grand Lodge without any Masonic Communication or other ritual—the Grand Master may simply verify the presence of a quorum, declare the Annual Communication open, and proceed with the Saturday agenda below. We will keep our business to a minimum. All legislation submitted this year will be considered at the 2021 Annual Communication.

We will require advance registration for our business sessions, and we hope to see California Master Masons from far and wide attend. Many of the usual reports and presentations will be available as videos on demand. As in the past, the Sunday session will be open to our entire Masonic family and the public.

Details on how to participate will follow, with registration beginning in the second week of September. Please read the agenda below and join me and my fellow officers in October.

***Annual Communication  
October 10-11, 2020***

**Saturday, October 10, 2020**

**Business session  
10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

Welcome by the Grand Master  
Invocation by the Grand Chaplain  
Registration report and orientation to technology  
Grand Master's Message and Video  
Trial Review Committee Report  
2020-2021 Budget Proposal  
2021-2022 Per Capita Proposal  
Election of Officers  
Benediction  
Adjournment

**Sunday October 11, 2020**

**Public ceremonies**

**9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.**

Welcome  
Invocation  
Grand Master's Youth Support Award  
Grand Master's Mason of the Year Award  
Grand Master's Lifetime Achievement Award  
Farewell remarks

**10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

Break

**Installation of Officers**

**10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Grand Lodge Officer Installation  
Grand Master's Message  
Benediction  
Adjournment

Please know that the Grand Lodge is considering how lodges might proceed this year as well. While this announcement is bittersweet for me personally, I look forward to seeing you all online, and to when we can meet in person again.

Sincerely and fraternally,

John E. Trauner  
Grand Master  
Grand Lodge of F&AM of California