

THE CROSS & CROWN



Craig L. Flagtwet, Right Eminent Grand Commander of Knights Templar of California

JANUARY 2023

Vol. II No. 8

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Grand Commander's Message

Greetings, Sir Knights of the Great State of California

The New year dawning gives us an opportunity to seize the day and lay our plans for success in the coming months. We can either avail ourselves of the opportunity or let it slip from our grasp. I urge each of you who have the responsibility of managing and guiding our Commanderies to put in place the plans and events that will give structure to our upcoming meetings. Take the time now to schedule, as we are required to do, the Easter, May memorial and Christmas observances. The lack of action in the past few years is not acceptable going forward - these are required events. We must return to fulfilling our requirements and increase our efforts and planning to assure the success of our meetings. If you are being installed as Commander of your Commandery take the time now to schedule speakers at your stated convocations. It is important to understand clearly that the responsibility for success is ours. The adage goes that if we fail to plan, we plan to fail.

Sir Knights, whether an officer or member, come to the realization that each of us is the Sir Knight that needs to take action to make improvement over the past. Take the time to visit our symbolic lodges and talk about the joy of membership in the York Rite of Freemasonry. Share with our brothers the highlights of what you enjoy the most about your membership.

Every Sir Knight is an important and Valuable member of our Masonic fraternity. What we do matters. Plan your year and seize the day, every day going forward. In this manner we can continue to improve our Convocations, our fraternity our families and our lives.

Lady Tammy and I pray that we all have a happy and prosperous New year.

“You will know them by their works”

Craig L. Flagtwet, KCT, KYGCH, 33°
Grand Commander, Grand Commandery
Knights Templar, California

GRAND INSPECTOR GENERAL

Sir Knights one and all -- From the world of Ritual

To the re-elected and elected new officers: It is a new year, and you now have the opportunity to show what you can do. Your ritualistic endeavors must be the best you can do. Good ritual shows that you care about your commandery and instills pride in the membership. No matter which format you use to open the commandery, it must be done with out aid of notes or book.

I would like each Commandery to perform at least one order this year. There are sections in the Order of the Red Cross and Malta that do not require a large number of Sir Knights. A good way to make them more meaningful is to have a discussion on the Order. Too often we just perform the ritual, and the candidate never really understands the meaning. A 30-minute discussion around the festive table enhances the order.

Coming up in March is the officers conference. If there is a change you would like to see in the ritual or uniform policy, please let me know.

As always, I am at your service. God bless

Sir Knight Jim Baum
Grand Inspector General
jamesgbaum@msn.com
760-885-0256 (leave a message and I will get back to you.)

GRAND SESSIONS 2023

It is installation season and I want to paraphrase part of the charges given to the presiding officers ‘It is his privilege and duty ... to attend the meetings of the Grand Commandery either in person or by proxy ...’

Of course, the Grand York Rite Sessions are not just limited to the dais and grand officers. You will see the reservation form in this issue. Also is the Souvenir Program Ad request form. This program promotes publicity for your York Rite Body and helps defray costs of the Sessions for materials, rentals and hospitality supplies. We will not encounter the supply chain issue like last year and will have the printed copy at the Sessions and a PDF after the sessions which will include the results.

The Grand York Rite Sessions are May 14th to May 17th and held again at the Wyndham Visalia Hotel. In addition to the traditional activities, we will be offering the Order of Zanzibar – a fun degree for everyone, with the proceeds to benefit the CMMRF, after the banquet on Sunday evening.

All of the forms needed are available on the website: www.ca-gyrs.org.

Thanks,
Dave Glass

March, 3-5 Officers' Conference

May 14, Sunday – Grand Banquet
May 15, Monday – Grand Commandery
May 16, Tuesday – Grand Chapter
May 17, Wednesday – Grand Council
May 18, Thursday – Corporation

TEMPLAR RITUALIST

How many of you think you know much about the rituals of the Orders? There's a NEW way you can test yourself. Grand Encampment has established a Learning Management System, which you can access at: <http://templared.org/moodle/>.

Give it a try. Very soon now, there will be additional courses available: on Templar History and on the Trial of the Templars. You will have multiple choice quizzes to take in each Course and an opportunity to show off your excellence by submitting essays for everyone's edification!

The Editor

RECORDER ESSENTIALS

Recorders 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.

KT EDUCATION FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications for 2023 are available at: http://yorkriteofcalifornia.org/commandery/KT_Scholarship.html. The deadline for 2023 applications will be **March 1, 2023**.

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? Help spread the word!



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.

GRAND COMMANDER'S CALENDAR

JANUARY 2023 – MAY 2023

Date	Event	Location
Mar 3-5, 2023	Grand Officers' Conference	Visalia
March 8, 2023	Cryptic Festival	San Bernardino, 9:00 am
Mar 11, 2023	3-Way Reception	San Diego
Mar 12, 2023	3-Way Reception	Inland Empire
April 1, 2023	Commandery Festival	San Bernardino, 9:00 am
May 13-18	Grand Sessions	Visalia

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://yorkriteofcalifornia.org/commandery/itinerary.html>

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES AND ORDERS

Several Festivals are upcoming for the Fall and Spring. See Flyers at the end. Of particular note are:

Shasta York Rite Association

Feb 4, 2023 at 9am (see flyer)

Sacramento-Sierra YR Association

March 25, 2023 at 9am, Woodland

San Bernardino: moved to 2023

Feb 11, 2023 at 9am

March 8, 2023 at 7pm

April 1, 2023 at 9am

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 rozekroy@gmail.com

GRAND COMMANDERY CONTACT INFORMATION

Grand Commander:

Craig L. Flagtwet, KCT, KYGCH
909-553-4397 (C)
craigflagtwet@gmail.com

Grand Recorder:

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WWW.YORKRITEOFCALIFORNIA.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 April 1st, does not require action by the Commandery to be paid. Please note that the per capita charge for 2022 will be \$34.00, as adopted at the 2021 Grand Conclave. Chapter and Council payments are due by January 15th. Chapter per capita will be \$23.00, and Council will be \$21.00. Of course, all three bodies charge \$1.00 to support Grand Sessions; and Commandery also charges \$1.00 for the Eye Foundation, and \$1.00 for Christian Ministry. 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 May meetings, 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. Commanderies may also elect a representative, but Commandery officers 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.

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.

Ways to Give Financial Support

Please mail this form with your contribution to the address below.

Name of donor: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

If donor is a Sir Knight give location:

State: _____ Commandery Name: _____ No. _____

Please apply my donation as follows: (Place an X in the appropriate box)

- \$30.00 **Life Sponsor** (For Sir Knights only)
 \$50.00 **Associate Patron** (Available to Foundations, Corporations, or Individuals)
 \$100.00 **Patron** (Available to Foundations, Corporations, or Individuals)
 \$100.00 **Grand Commander's Club ***
 \$1,000.00 **Grand Master's Club ***
 \$10,000.00 **Golden Chalice** (Available to Foundations, Corporations, or Individuals) **
 \$25,000.00 **Grand Master's Sword of Merit** (Available to Foundations, Corporations, or Individuals) **
 \$ _____ **General Contribution**

Check or money order enclosed (Payable to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.)

Please charge to my credit card: Visa MasterCard American Express Discover

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Memorial or In Honor Contributions please fill out the following:

In Remembrance In Honor

Name of Person: _____

Please Notify: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

If a Commandery is to receive Remembrance or Honor credit please supply:

State: _____ Commandery Name: _____ No. _____

** Grand Master's Club and Grand Commander's Club may not be purchased in the name of any organization, only individuals. Members of the Grand Commander's Club may add to their donations until they reach a total of \$1,000 to receive membership in the Grand Master's Club. (As of 2/1/2015 once 25 Grand Master's Clubs are reached, a Sword of Merit will be awarded.)*

*** If requested at the time of the initial gift, the donations may be applied to the Permanent Donor Fund.*

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. welcomes gifts and Bequests as well as Gifts of Securities and Life Insurance. If you desire in planning your estate to make a gift to be used by The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. for its charitable programs, regardless of the form which your gift may take, the proper words to be used on any gift or check is "The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc."

The Foundation is a tax-exempt Charitable Organization under Section 501(c) 3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Please mail this form with your contribution to the address below.

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 271118
Flower Mound TX 75027-1118
Phone: 214-888-0220 Fax: 214-888-0230
E-Mail: Manager@ktef.us
www.ktef.org

Red Bluff Chapter No. 40 RAM and the Shasta York Rite Association

Proudly present



The Mark Master and Virtual Past Master Degrees

To be conferred on February 4, 2023

At Orland Laurel Lodge
431 Colusa St
Orland , CA

9 am - Registration
10 am - Degree conferral
12:30 - Lunch

**All RAM Chapters are invited to attend with their
candidates.**

For more information please contact
David Sokol
(530) 524-5531
davidsokol5@icloud.com

Spring 2023 York Rite Festival

Royal Arch Chapter Degrees
Mark, Past, Most Excellent & Royal Arch
Saturday, February 11, 2023 @ 9:00 A.M.

Cryptic Mason Council Degrees
Royal Master & Select Master
Wednesday, March 8, 2023 @ 7:00 P.M.

Knights Templar Commandery Orders
Red Cross, Malta & Order of the Temple
Saturday, April 1, 2023 @ 9:00 A.M.

Please Check-In Early!
Sharp Time Set - Conferral of Degrees & Orders

All at the

San Bernardino York Rite Masonic Temple
2888 Arrowhead Avenue
San Bernardino, California 92405-3805
sbyrb@juno.com

Please be early to avoid delays / Prompt conferral times are set



2023 Grand York Rite Sessions May 14th to May 17th, 2023 – Visalia, CA

Each person attending must fill out a registration form Please print your names and titles as you would like it printed on your badge
Do you prefer your confirmation by: email (default) none phone call (latest time to call _____)

Name: _____ Lady / Guest: _____
 Title(s): _____
 Lady / Guest Title(s): _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____
 Zip: _____ Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

Arrival Date / Time: _____ Departure Date / Time: _____

I am a member of: Please list the number(s) that you are a member of **RAM #** _____ **CM #** _____ **KT #** _____
 *R.O. is Reservation Only. There is no charge for the event. However, if you plan to attend, please mark it on your reservation form

Day/Date	Time	Please enter the number of Meals/Events you are requesting	Price	Total
Sun - 14 th	8:00 AM	GYR CA Corporation Annual Meeting _____	*R.O.*	
	10:30 AM	Allied Masonic Degrees Statewide Meeting _____ Your AMD Council Number _____	*R.O.*	
	11:00 AM	Battalion & Belles Brunch Southwestern Buffet _____	\$31.00	
	1:00 PM	Drill Team Participant _____	*R.O.*	
	4:00 PM	Vespers Service (<i>Memorial Service for all 3 Bodies</i>) _____	*R.O.*	
	6:30 PM	Grand York Rite Banquet Beef & Chicken Duo _____ Pacific Salmon _____ Vegetarian Option _____	\$47.00 \$47.00 \$30.00	
½ hour after the Banquet ends Order of Zanzibar (open to all) _____			\$25.00	
Mon – 15 th	7:00 AM	Grand Commandery Breakfast (Open to all Registrants) Wyndham Buffet _____	\$23.00	
	12:00 PM	KT Ladies Luncheon Lasagna Rolettes _____ Special Dietary _____	\$32.00	
	12:15 PM	Grand Commandery Luncheon Deli Style Buffet _____	\$27.00	
	2:00 PM	Past Commander's Association _____ Must include the PCA Application	\$30.00	
	5:00 PM	Grand Commandery Installation attendee _____	*R.O.*	
Tue – 16 th	7:00 AM	Grand Chapter Breakfast: (Open to all Registrants) Wyndham Buffet _____	\$23.00	
	12:00 PM	RAM Ladies Luncheon: Grilled Salmon Caesar Salad _____ Special Dietary _____	\$28.00	
	12:15 PM	Grand Chapter Luncheon Meatloaf _____ Special Dietary _____	\$27.00	
	2:00 PM	Order of High Priesthood Degree _____ Must include the OHP Petition	\$50.00	
	5:00 PM	Grand Chapter Installation attendee _____	*R.O.*	
Wed – 17 th	7:00 AM	Grand Council Breakfast: (Open to all Registrants) Wyndham Buffet _____	\$23.00	
	12:00 PM	CM Ladies Luncheon: Ladies Tea _____ Special Dietary _____	\$32.00	
	12:15 PM	Grand Council Luncheon: Barbeque Buffet _____	\$39.00	
	2:00 PM	Thrice Illustrious Master Degree _____ Must include the TIM Petition	\$40.00	
	4:00 PM	Golden State Chapter of Research _____	*R.O.*	
	5:00 PM	Grand Council Installation attendee _____	*R.O.*	

Paid by check # _____ (Payable to CA Grand York Rite) or credit card at <https://ca-gyrs.square.site>

Special Dietary notation: We will try to accommodate those with special dietary needs and work with the hotel chefs. Please note your dietary concern: **Vegan** **Vegetarian** **Gluten Free** and mark the count in each meal line above. If we are unable to accommodate for that meal, you will be contacted ahead of time and refund issued based on your decision. There is a full meal description on the www.ca-gyrs.org website.

Comments: _____

Events are subject to change based on reservation responses or other factors.

More forms (including the Order of High Priesthood, Thrice Illustrious Master, Past Commanders Association & Dignitary Introduction), menus and schedule are available from www.ca-gyrs.org. For your convenience, we are allowing you to register and pay for the Order of High Priesthood, Thrice Illustrious Master and Past Commanders Association with your other meals and events. You must also include those respective forms with this one. We will forward the information and funds to the appropriate degree coordinators.

2023 Grand York Rite Sessions May 14th to May 17th, 2023 – Visalia, CA

**Please send page 1 of this form and payment to:
CA-GYRS 1123 J Street Sacramento, CA 95814-2809**

Meal reservations are locked & will not be accepted after 05/01/23 *(don't even ask)*

Onsite registration is available to the Companions and Sir Knights attending sessions without ordering meals.

Please be aware that Name Tags will not be printed for late registrants, so please register before the deadline.

No refunds after May 8th, 2023 – unless approved by the Grand York Rite Sessions Executive Committee

Contact the **Wyndham Hotel** 9000 W Airport Dr Visalia, California 93277 +1-559-651-5000
Tell the agent that you are in the **Grand York Rite Group** or register online via www.ca-gyrs.org

Room rate: \$99.00 +taxes.

Hotel reservation deadline is **05/01/23** Pending room block availability – best to register early

Questions, contact the following below:

- **General Co-Chairmen:** chairmen@ca-gyrs.org **Ray Broomfield** (805) 482-6756
and **Steve Goad** (760) 608-1585

A few words about Reservation Only (*R.O.*) events:

Although there is no charge for these events, please enter in a numerical value for the events you want to attend. This provides a headcount for the preparation of the event. Also, if the event is cancelled or changed you can be notified.

Grand York Rite California (GYR CA) Corporation Annual Meeting. The event starts at 8:00 am to completion of business. All members of the GYR CA Corporation are cordially invited to attend. Agenda for this annual business meeting will be published separately.

Allied Masonic Degrees Statewide Meeting. Representatives from each A.M.D. Council are requested to attend. This meeting will be to discuss A.M.D. at the statewide level and future degree presentations by the respective A.M.D. Councils.

Vesper services. Vespers is our gathering to honor our departed Companions and Sir Knights. All are encouraged to attend.

The Order of Zanzibar. Is a “Fun Degree” open to all, which will be held after the Grand Banquet. The cost for this degree is \$25. Proceeds from this degree will be donated to the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Fund.

The Grand Installations. We kindly request that you mark down the number of attendees for each of the Installations. This is to properly prepare the caterers for the reception following the installations.

Golden State Chapter of Research. All Royal Arch Masons are invited to attend. For a small fee of \$20, you can submit your petition at the meeting to become a lifetime member of the Golden State Research Chapter, and receive a copy of the Grand Orations Booklet 2020-2022.

MMS (Masonic Membership Solutions) Training. This is directed to our Secretaries / Recorders and Assistant Sec/Recs on using the MMS System and for others like the Dais Officers to understand the application. Phil and Tom are available for orientation and consultation upon request. Simply email mms@ca-gyrs.org prior to May 1st 2023 with a day and time convenient for you and they will make an attempt to fit time for you into the overall schedule.



2023 GRAND YORK RITE SESSIONS Souvenir Ad Program Order Form

The printed program will be available at Grand Sessions (in black and white / grayscale)
AND a full color PDF format for distribution after the Sessions.

Company Name or Organization _____

Contact Name _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

Mailing Address City, State Zip _____

What do You Want Your Ad to Say?

Camera ready ad material is preferred. Provide an attachment in any of the following formats: pub, pdf, docx, doc, wpd, jpg, jpeg, bmp, png
To ads@ca-gyrs.org

Payment must accompany Ad request, **payable to "Grand York Rite of CA"** or use your credit card at <https://ca-gyrs.square.site/ad-orders>

DEADLINE FOR ACCEPTING AD REQUESTS: 4/25/23

Send Ad and Payment to
CA-GYRS 1123 J Street Sacramento, CA 95814-2809
or email ads@ca-gyrs.org

Questions: Tom at (562) 924-6500

Please enter quantity:

- ___ Full Page @ \$180.00 each
- ___ Half Page @ \$90.00 each
- ___ Quarter Page @ \$45.00 each
- ___ Eighth Page @ \$25.00 each
- ___ Business Card @ \$25.00 each
- ___ Name on Name Page (list below) @ \$5.00 each

Total Amount _____

Check this box if this is an update to a previous submission

Check # _____ or Payment submitted at <https://ca-gyrs.square.site/ad-orders>

Names for the Name Page (at \$5 each)

File attachment name(s): _____

For Committee Use Only: Date Postmarked: _____ Ad Tracking number: A23-5 _____