

THE WORKMAN



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

JUNE 2020

Vol. XI No. 13

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Grand High Priest's Message

Companions,

Here we are in June! I never expected to be submitting an article for a second June during my term of office, but now it looks like I will be doing one more in July also. I will turn it over after that to Right Excellent Richard Bullard who I am hoping to see elected and installed into this august and, at times, somewhat terrifying office. The year started out like a whirlwind. We addressed the main financial problem of Grand Chapter head on and the whole Grand Line helped form the plan. You will hear more of the details at our Grand Convocation in July.

On that note, let me tell you some about the plan we have for that session. We have cancelled out of the hotel in Visalia for this year and will be moving the session to Sacramento. The date is still July 15th and it will be a virtual session. The plan is to also have a live session, as much as the state government and the Grand Master allow. The actual details will be sent out shortly after our planning meeting this Thursday. I can tell you that we have explored several ways to vote online and have come up with a plan to do so on the legislation, budget and new officers. To do this we must have advance registration for the session!

I have not allowed virtual meetings of individual Chapters during this pandemic because I did not want any individual member to be disenfranchised because he either

didn't have the equipment or knowledge to participate virtually. I did allow for the bills to be paid by the HP and for virtual social meetings to take place. I hope each of you understands. I did issue a dispensation for the Chapters in department 5 and 6 to hold virtual meetings. I attended both meetings which were opened in ample form by the department officers. At those meetings the only business conducted was to vote on accepting the mail in vote of all members on the consolidations, in effect voting to accept a vote already conducted by all members. This will allow those Chapters to consolidate at our annual meeting.

Because of the age and vulnerability of our members I have spent many hours worrying about your health. The good news is that the Covid-19 flu has been contracted by very, very few of our members and for the most part we have weathered this storm pretty well. For this I thank the Great Architect for his love, protection and guidance during this time.

Again, I thank each of the officers for their work this year. The line officers in particular have worked hard to improve our Grand Chapter which in turn will enable more support to your individual Chapters.

I close with my prayer that each of you are safe and well. And as Santa would say "Be Good"!

Fraternally,

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

GRAND SESSIONS 2020

Companions and Sir Knights

The Grand Officers and Trustees voted to cancel Grand Sessions scheduled for July 14-16 at the Wyndham in Visalia. The Grand Council instead will host a virtual Grand Assembly on June 20th at 1:00 pm, using the Zoom platform; Grand Commandery will do the same on July 11th at 10:00 am. Grand Chapter will do the same, except that a combination Virtual and face-to-face gathering will be held in Sacramento on July 15th, assuming the restrictions of the Grand Master and the Governor are modified enough to permit it.

Please check the website for the latest registration document and meeting schedules: www.ca-gyrs.org. If you run into an issue of booking your room before the deadline, please send the details to sec-rec@yorkriteofcalifornia.org or call Phil at (916) 712-4814. He will work with the hotel to resolve or explain why you could not book your room (i.e. we have filled our block). You may also call the hotel directly for booking or questions. Phone numbers are (888) 236-2427, or (916) 447-1700.

Please distribute this information to everyone in your orbit who may have already registered for Grand Sessions, or may do so in the future. The Grand Sessions Committee has arranged with the Wyndham to cancel all reservations made for May and/or July *in our block of rooms*. If anyone made a reservation outside that block, or at another hotel, they will need to make their own cancellation.

If you would like to attend, in person, the combination Grand Convocation on July 15th, you must register so we have a head-count, for both the meeting and the lunch. The lunch will be catered by Tony's Deli, with a selection of breads, meats and cheeses and condiments, so you can make your own sandwich. Chips, cookies, and Sodas will also be provided. 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

There will be no vendor tables with paraphernalia for purchase, but a number of them have taken out Ads in the souvenir program. You can also still take out an Ad, until July 1st, 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 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

June brings more isolation from each other due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This virus has been categorized as a "flu" virus by immunologists and as such can be expected to rise and fall with every "flu" season henceforth which is roughly starting with the Autumnal Equinox in September and concluding by Memorial Day in May. We should know more scientifically in the month of June if this is true or not for this particular virus depending on the incidence of new cases during this month especially in the presence of the bad medical behavior of the current civil disturbance which is violating on a daily basis all the rules of safe social contact in public during this pandemic. I bring this up for a particularly important Masonic and Royal Arch (especially) reason. If this virus turns out to indeed be a "flu" virus of a calculable mortality as it is currently characterized by the experts, then if we are allowed by the Grand Master to meet during this summer; we should plan to take advantage of the opportunity before the inevitable return of the virus in October is upon us and another lock down is imposed. It is entirely probable that if we are not allowed to resume ritual activities in July - September, we will not be able to meet

again for ritual purposes until a year from now when hopefully a vaccine is available!? I say this to suggest that those Chapters that are normally dark in July and August (and most of us are normally dark) consider adding a meeting in August and September if we are allowed by the Grand Master to meet to practice and retain the knowledge and execution of our beautiful ritual while we are able to do so safely! I fully understand and support those of our Companions that for valid personal reasons do not desire to mix again in public in any social or fraternal venue until we have a proven vaccine against this virus which could easily be as early as next spring (i.e. a year from now) or later depending on the results of medical trials now starting. There is an element of personal risk in meeting for any purpose while this pandemic remains unchecked and each Companion regardless of age and health must evaluate for himself whether or not they desire to assume such a risk to their health and well being as attending a Masonic meeting? This puts a special burden on our High Priests and their Inspectors to help evaluate that risk and proceed in an appropriate fashion for that risk on a Chapter by Chapter basis until this pandemic is under control! I am strongly opposed to the idea of performing our ritual via electronic, e.g. Zoom, means due to the well known cyber security shortfalls among other detractors of such software (although security is getting slowly better with each new software release). I am particularly concerned about our habitual practice of fall and spring festivals around the state. Clearly the spring festivals have come and gone in 2020 without realization in California; but any fall festivals will need to be vetted carefully by our High Priests, Inspectors and Deputy Grand Lecturers before proceeding! I am

hopeful that several of these fall festivals and Chapter conferrals can proceed safely to carry on our traditions of exaltation to the august degree of the Royal Arch on worthy brethren in California!? Please let our ritual staff know if your Chapter is considering such a conferral so that we may assist you in doing it safely and with a quality result as is Always expected from California Royal Arch Masons! Elsewhere in this Workman, please read the comments of our Grand High Priest on the plans for the Grand Chapter Session in Sacramento Temple on Wednesday, 15 July. Although it will primarily be planned to be a virtual meeting, the agenda is set up to conduct it in such a manner that would be similar to a face-to-face meeting should they be allowed. I will have more to say on this meeting in the July Workman; but please, most importantly, register and attend virtually on the 15th if you can to stay connected to our Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons as we launch a new Grand Capitular year! All the Best for your safety and good health
Best Always - Your Most Humble and Currently Isolated Grand Lecturer!

Steve

GOLFERS OF THE RITE **UNITE!**

As you may expect, the Golf Tourney has been canceled. Hopefully, we will be able to hold it next year. If you made a donation by buying a Hole, the cost will be refunded to you if you wish. Already over \$1,000 of these donations have been left with the Grand Chapter for its programs. Please let Tom Chavez know if you would like a refund. He can be reached at: thomas.c.chavez@gmail.com; or at

2214 Elliott Dr, American Canyon, CA
94503-4106; or call him at 650-766-2319.

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

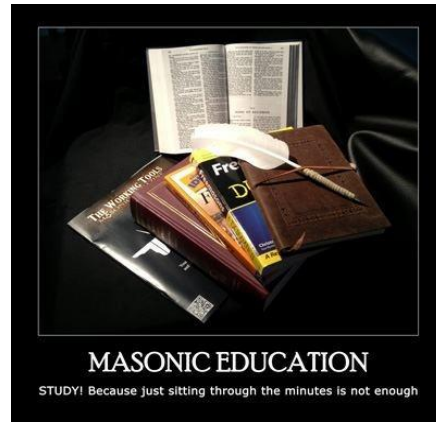
Secretaries new and old: near the end of this newsletter you will find a two-page document that serves as guidelines for Secretaries and Recorders – especially new ones.

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/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.

The Annual meeting this year would ordinarily be scheduled on July 15, 2020, but there is not likely to be enough time, given the need for a luncheon, the Order of High Priesthood, and the photographs for the Installation and the Installation and Reception afterwards.

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](http://yorkriteofcalifornia.org/encompasser%20issues/Encompasser%20October%202019.pdf)

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S CALENDAR

JUNE 2020 – JULY 2020

Date	Event	Location
May 2-7	Grand Sessions	Visalia
June 20	Grand Council Cryptic Masons	Virtual, Online
Jun 27	Chapter Festival Cancelled	Comptche
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

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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>

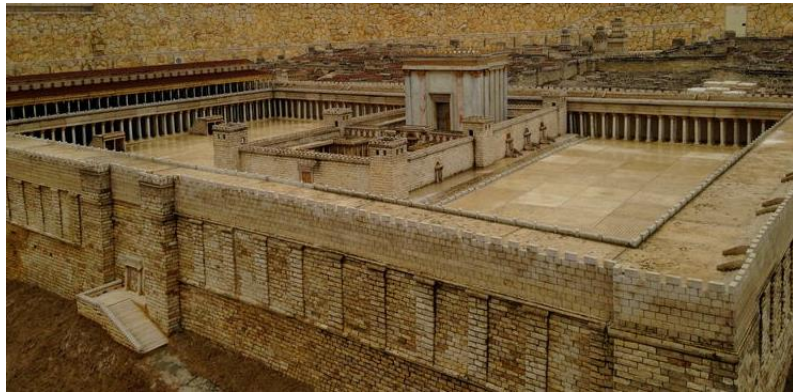
4. **Per Capita** -- The Per Capita payment, due each Jan 15th, does not require action by the Chapter to be paid. You will need good, up-to-date end-of-

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.



PETALUMA CHAPTER No. 22 of ROYAL ARCH MASONS



Zerubabel: The story behind the construction of the Second Temple



This talk is presented by the
Most Excellent Companion Steven R. Goad

161st Grand High Priest 2016 & the current Grand Lecturer
of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of California

Saturday, June 13, 2020 at 10:00 AM

All Master Masons are welcome to join us.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84190608139?pwd=SHMxNGNIMGVkM2ttSXE3N1g2emVwdz09>

Or Phone **(669) 900-9128** (San Jose)

then enter the Meeting ID: **841 9060 8139** and Password: **592786**

For more information email Rich Fonseca: richfonseca@yahoo.com



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 emailing this form to reservations@ca-gyrs.org There will be an email sent to acknowledge your registration.

Name:
Address:
Home Phone:

Email:
City:
Mobile Phone / SMS:

Zip:

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

Grand Office (or Past Grand):

International Grand Office (or Past):

Comments:

Virtually Attending:

- Grand Council on June 20th, 2020 at 1:00 PM
- Grand Commandery 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 Corporation members)
- Grand Chapter on July 15th, 2020 at 8:00 AM
- Attending in person, *if allowed* (number of attendees limited*)

Notes:

Submit Form

You will receive separate emails with the individual 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. Please be dressed as you would if attending the meeting physically. 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.

***For those planning to attend the Grand Chapter Session in person (if local health laws permit):** We will be meeting at the **Sacramento Masonic Temple** 1123 J Street Sacramento 95814. To allow for social distancing requirements, space is limited. Details on hotel room reservations can be obtained from sec-rec@yorkriteofcalifornia.org.

If there are questions on the form submission, please email them to reservations@ca-gyrs.org