

THE WORKMAN



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

MARCH 2021

Vol. XII No. 8

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Grand High Priest's Message

Companions,

March. The one-year anniversary of this Pandemic that has severely restricted our ability to meet in person and face to face. What a year it has been! But during these restrictions Royal Arch Masonry in California has retained it's vitality and found new ways to meet, how to conduct our Chapter Business, elect and install officers and plan for our future. The only thing we have not been able to do is practice our beautiful ritual, accept new candidates and show those new members what Royal Arch truly is and why it is essential for every Master Mason to explore the Royal Arch and learn the completion of the Blue Lodge degrees.

One highlight of the past month is that Atlas Chapter was Instituted on Feb 15. That new Chapter is first one to be created since Siminoff Chapter at Union City. Atlas Chapter will hold its meetings in the new Lodge room at Grand Lodge. The officers there have a vision to make it a very unique Chapter. I am so excited to see that Chapter constituted and in operation. The officers Instituted are Excellent Companion Jordan T. Yelinek as the first High Priest, Companion Chris Trueblood as the first King,

and Companion Jeffery M. Wilkins as the first Scribe. Please congratulate them when you have occasion to do so.

So what's next. In my eyes is the most important thing the Chapters and York Rite Bodies can do now is begin your plans for reopening. While we don't know when or how soon, we must start our preparations now. Most Worshipful Weiss and his officers are working on their recommendations. We must be ready for that day.

Membership is still the key! Grand Chapter loses approximately 400 members a year, through attrition, people moving out of State, health issues and even death. You have all heard me talk about involvement in our Blue Lodges over the years. That needs to continue. Education as to what the Royal Arch is and its importance to every Master Mason is paramount! Let us verify our Ritual Teams and fill the Cast openings. Don't be afraid to innovate. Contact your Department Grand officers, your Deputy Grand Lecturers and your Inspectors with your ideas and include them in your plans.

As most of you are aware, our Grand York Rite Sessions will be Virtual. Grand Council holds theirs May 8th. Grand Commandery May 15th and Grand Chapter on May 22nd. Please be sure to watch for the registration forms.

Be well! Be Safe!
See you down the road.

Fraternally,

Richard W. Bullard, KYGCH
166th Grand High Priest
Royal Arch Masons of California

75-YEAR PRESENTATION

THE JANUARY AND FEBRUARY EVENTS HAD TO BE RESCHEDULED DUE TO KERMIT'S HOSPITALIZATION. GARY IVERSON PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING UPDATE:

“Kermit is no longer at the hospital in Downey. He has been transferred to a care facility in Lancaster, CA. At first this was seen as positive news and Kermit was doing better. I unilaterally decided to get his awards to him so he could enjoy them with the intent of having a formal presentation at a later date.

“At this point his grandson, Masonic Brother Sean Rossall contacted me with the sad news that Kermit had taken a turn for the worse. This was confirmed by my call to his daughter whom I had been working with (and is taking care of Kermit's wife, Willo).

“Brother Sean was going to Lancaster to take care of the business side of Kermit's care facility stay. He offered to take the certificates and pins to Kermit the last weekend of February. I delivered the certificate and pins to Brother Sean with the request that we get a photo (if possible) of Kermit with the certificates and pins.

“I know we all have included Kermit and his family in our best wishes and prayers. Kermit will have his certificates and pins, and our unilateral congratulations.

“I will let you know when I hear any additional news.”

Companion and Sir Knight Kermit Rosenthal, who turned 96 last September, will be celebrating his 75 years as a York Rite Mason. Kermit was raised in Missouri; exalted in Downey Chapter (now Whittier Chapter) in January 1946; greeted in Orange County Council in March of 1946; and knighted in Whittier-St. Johns Commandery in May of 1946.

GRAND SESSIONS 2021

Companions and Sir Knights

With COVID-19 restrictions still in place, the 2021 Grand York Rite Sessions will be virtual meetings only. These will take place on three consecutive Saturdays in May.

- **Saturday, May 8th:**
 - The Grand York Rite of California Annual Corporation meeting at 8:00 AM (tiled session)
 - The Grand Council of Cryptic Masons Annual Assembly at 10:00 AM (tiled session)
 - The Grand Council public awards and Installation at 2:00 PM (open to all)

- **Saturday, May 15th:**
 - The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar Annual

Convocation on May 15th at 10:00 AM (tiled session)

- **Saturday, May 22nd:**
 - The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons Annual Convocation at 9:00 AM (tiled session)
 - The Grand Chapter public awards and Installation at 2:00 PM (open to all)

Each event, listed above, has its own link for attendance and will be emailed to you. In all cases, the respective virtual rooms will be opened 30 minutes prior to the event to allow the hosts to admit the participants.

The morning sessions are all tiled and as such you will need to sign in with your name that matches your registration form in order to be admitted. Please be dressed for these virtual sessions as you would be if attending in person.

All of the registrations are online (no paper forms) this year. The Grand Sessions website www.ca-gyrs.org has the links to register for the sessions. Deadlines for registering are one week prior to the event for all VOTING members (to allow the credential committees to vet and prepare). All other attendees may register up to three days prior to the event. Membership validation will be required for the tiled meetings, so please register early. All three bodies will be voting on legislation this year. The website www.ca-gyrs.org has the Proxy / Elected Official Forms that must be filled out and submitted to the Grand York Rite Office if the Dais Officers are unable to attend the Sessions.

Also available on the website is the Souvenir Program Ad Request Form. We

continue our tradition for you to advertise your business, organizations, congratulatory messages, etc. in our Souvenir Program. As it was last year, this will be available in PDF format for downloading after the Sessions, which will include the results of the Sessions. And because this produced electronically, this will be a full color program. You are authorized to vote to pay for the advertisements in your Chapter, Council and Commandery virtual meetings. The deadline for accepting the Ad requests is on May First.

GRAND LECTURER

Companions All

March brings new light and hope to our Craft! Spring is coming soon, the vaccine is out and around us all and the hopes of being able to meet in person again is in the air! With all this anticipation, what shall we do? Well, be safe first and foremost! No one wants to be hospitalized on the last day of the pandemic! Start planning for a return to our Lodges to practice our profession as Masons and in particular Royal Arch Masons!

When we can again do ritual in person, how do we minimize our contact and proximity in the Lodge to keep us all safe until everyone is vaccinated or immune? The term "local conditions" is a general catch phrase that translates to "do the best you can to match what the ritual calls for"! Contact around the altar can be minimized to limit the amount of time and persons that we must contact, e.g. hands on sleeves instead of hands clasped is one thought? It's all OK in the name of "local conditions" provided you are attempting to accomplish what the ritual calls for with accommodations for the

safety of those who might still feel a bit uncomfortable in the environment after all these months of lockdown!?

Clearly we need to plan Now for festivals and classes when we are allowed to meet again in person! The late summer and fall are good targets for these events given the possibility of general vaccination in the spring and early summer! Dates to accomplish our ritual will become scarce once the OK is given to meet together. Be optimistic within the due bounds of our local situations within the State. Some areas will clearly open before others and there may be restrictions on traveling long distances to Masonic events given the reach of the pandemic from one area to another? Planning is the key. We need to allow time for the ritual cast to practice their work before displaying it to others. There is No excuse for sloppy or worse (reading it) ritual after all these months! Take some time to prepare that you wouldn't necessarily have to do in other circumstances!

Finally, save the date of Saturday May 22nd for our annual Grand Chapter Convocation! It will again be virtual as last year and hopefully will be the last year we will need to take such precautions for some time in the future! Lots of business to accomplish and everyone should take time to understand how the Grand Chapter is surviving these trying times! Until next month, keep looking up!

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

COMPTCHE– 2021

The Festival at Comptche, was unfortunately cancelled last year. But now is the time to begin planning for 2021, with

the hope that the onerous lockdowns will be lifted by then. 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 this year. The Capitular Festival is presently scheduled for June 26th, 2021.



WELL OF SOULS

On March 20th at 11:00 am, EC Jonathan Prestage will make a presentation on The Well of Souls. This, of course, will be virtual, and is part of the Masonic Homes Speaker Series. See Flyer near the end of this newsletter for the Zoom details.

SECRETARY ESSENTIALS

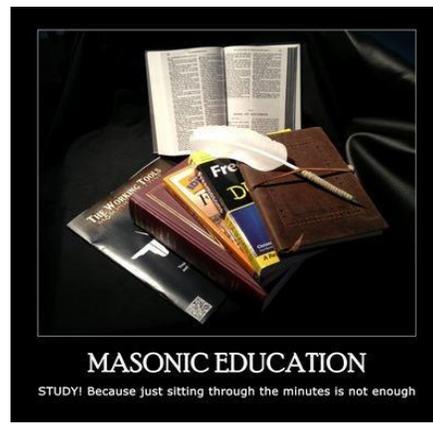
Secretaries new and old: near the end of this newsletter you will find a two-page document that serves as guidelines for Secretaries and Recorders – especially new ones.

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 next Research Chapter meeting has now been scheduled for Monday night May 31st at 7:00 pm. You do not need to be a member to attend!! But we will be happy to read your petition at the time. A blank petition is provided at the end of this newsletter. Please complete and send to the new Secretary, Jonathan Prestage at jonathan.prestage@gmail.com.

Jonathan was elected and installed at our meeting on February 22nd, along with EC Thomas Chavez, High Priest; Ron Alcorn, King; David Rathgeber, Scribe; and Phil Hardiiman, Treasurer.

GRAND CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications for 2021 are now available:
<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
MasonsAttn: 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 January 2021 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 MARCH 2021 – 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
9-Mar	Exec Comm	Virtual 6:00 pm
13-Apr	Exec Comm	Virtual 6:00 pm
8-May	Grand YR Corporation	Virtual, 8:00 am
8-May	Grand Council	Virtual, 10:00 am
15-May	Grand Commandery	Virtual 10:00 am
22-May	Grand Chapter	Virtual 9:00 AM

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sec-rec@yorkriteofcalifornia.org

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GOLDEN STATE CHAPTER OF RESEARCH
 Website:

WWW.GOLDENSTATECHAPTER.ORG

GRAND SESSIONS, FORMS & SCHEDULES
 Website:

WWW.CA-GYRS.ORG

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

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:

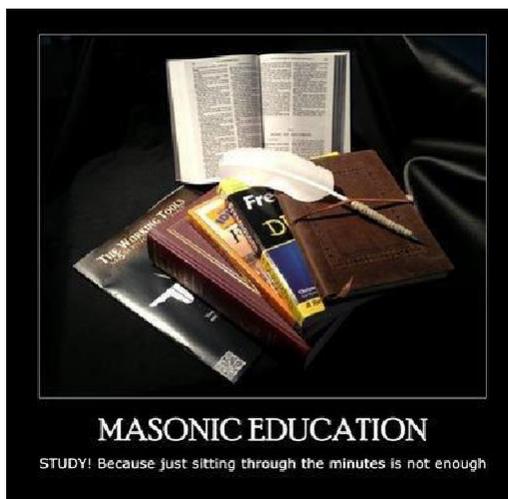
Chapter: See Section 201 in the Constitution at <http://www.yorkriteusa.org/cagyr/forms/Chapter/ROYAL%20ARCH%20Constitution%202018%20Rev1.pdf>

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.

Golden State Research Chapter



Topic: Golden State Research Chapter is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Time: May 31, 2021 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom -- HOLD CTRL KEY DOWN WHILE CLICKING LINK

<https://scottishrite.zoom.us/j/87980549645?pwd=emRoakl2SWhLRWR0emVzSXhwVIMzdz09>

Meeting ID: 879 8054 9645

Passcode: W7tp3w

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,87980549645#,,,,*404611# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,87980549645#,,,,*404611# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 879 8054 9645

Passcode: 404611

Find your local number: <https://scottishrite.zoom.us/u/kciVzUSId4>

Petition for Affiliation

Golden State Chapter of Research Royal Arch Masons



To the Excellent High Priest, Officers and Members of Golden State Chapter of Research, Royal Arch Masons of California:

I, _____, respectfully represent that
(First Name) (Middle Name) (Last Name)

- I am / not a resident of the State of California but resident in _____
- I am a Master Mason in good standing of _____ Lodge No. _____, F.&A.M., under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of _____;
- I am a Royal Arch Mason in good standing of _____ Chapter No. _____, R.A.M., under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of _____;
- I desire to be affiliate with Golden State Chapter as a dual/plural member of your Chapter; and
- If elected to membership, I promise cheerful compliance with the Bylaws of Golden State Chapter and Constitution of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of California.

In connection with this petition, I provide the following additional information about myself:

Residence Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Residence Telephone _____ Mobile phone _____ Email _____

Business Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Business Telephone _____

Date of _____ Signature of
Petition _____, 20 _____ Petitioner _____

Recommendations:

The undersigned, member of Golden State Chapter, recommend the Chapter grant this petition:

1. Signature _____ Printed Name _____



2021 GRAND YORK RITE SESSIONS Souvenir Ad Program Order Form

The program will be available in 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 we will invoice you via PayPal to use your credit card.

DEADLINE FOR ACCEPTING AD REQUESTS: 5/01/21

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 Invoice me via PayPal

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

File attachment name(s): _____

You are allowed to vote for this expense at your meetings.

For Committee Use Only: Date Postmarked: _____ Ad Tracking number: A21-_____

The Masonic Home
York Rite Speaker Series
Education for our Masonic Journey



The Well of Souls

Saturday, March 20, 2021

11:00 am

Known as the "Holy of Holies" or "Well of Souls" this cave is the last remnant attributed to that sacred vault under the Temple of Solomon where Masonic tradition informs us Hiram Abiff and the High Priest offered up their devotions. Join us for a presentation by Excellent Companion Jonathan Prestage exploring the legendary history and symbolism of this sacred site, including a photographic tour through the Dome of the Rock and the Well of Souls.



Jonathan Prestage is the sitting and past Master of Templum Rosae Lodge, No. 863, in Oakland, California. He also serves as the General Secretary of the Oakland Scottish Rite and is a past High Priest, past Illustrious Master, and current Generalissimo in the Siminoff York Rite Bodies of Union City, CA.

We invite all brethren and guests to join over Zoom:

Meeting ID: 710 270 5253 Passcode: 2021

<https://zoom.us/j/7102705253?pwd=TIYycEJlLaFV2M2VmWW5mL1pBdFpWZz09>

For additional information regarding the lecture or the Masonic Home York Rite Speaker Series, contact Ex. Comp. M. Ramos at mjr_pm863@gmail.com