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THE CALIFORNIA ENCOMPASSER IS THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GRAND YORK RITE BODIES OF CALIFORNIA AND IS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY TO PROVIDE AN INFORMATION VEHICLE FOR THE MEMBERSHIP. THE PUBLICATION IS TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE MEMBERSHIP AT ALL CONVOCATIONS, ASSEMBLIES AND CONCLAVES OF THE YORK RITE WITHIN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.
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The Craft Rituals of American Freemasonry

If you visit other lodges, you quickly pick up on the “differences” that exist between their ritual and your own. A little digging, and you start to see that there are some word variations, but not “significant” changes in the ritual ...

... unless of course you are in a few select locations of the country. Let us briefly examine the “baseline” of American Freemasonry – the “Webb-form” ritual and some of the “other” rituals in which you may come into contact with.

“Webb-Form”

In 1745 the three-degree system was in place. Splitting the first degree into two degrees, and taking the then second degree and making it the third degree accomplished this. This was not a very effective ritual, so in order to make the work more “acceptable” revisions were begun in 1769 in England by Wellins Calcutt and William Hutchinson. In 1772 William Preston joined them. In two years, Preston had completed his work, and rewrote the ritual of the three degrees. He was an excellent ritualist, and his original work is some of the most beautiful ever created. There was one small problem it was long! In fact, it is said the 12 parts of his lecture of the Master Mason degree actually took a half-day to recite.

Enter the colonial Thomas Smith Webb. Webb loved the Preston rituals however, he quickly identified their major flaw. In 1797 he published his first “Freemason’s Monitor, or Illustrations on Freemasonry” – in which he gave full credit to Preston for all his work – but made sure that the reader’s knew that they were Preston’s work – but with some “necessary alterations.” Webb never really wrote any ritual – he simply rearranged, and shortened some sections of Preston’s work so that it would fit the lifestyle of North America.

In 1839 the Grand Lodge of Alabama called for a meeting of all the “Grand Lecturer’s” to discuss and determine a “common ritual” for the Craft. After a preliminary meeting in Washington DC in 1842, the “Baltimore Convention” was held in that city in 1843. The objective of the convention was to “produce uniformity of Masonic Work and to recommend such measures as will tend to the elevation of this order to its due degree of respect throughout the world at large.” In 1844 the Baltimore Convention published the “Trestle-Board.” The Webb-Form ritual is used in 50 of the Grand Lodges of the United States. In all



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California Freemasons
 The Family of Freemasonry
 “Masonry on the Rise”

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Sean Nicholas Foran was born on February 14, 1944, that's right, Valentine's Day, in San Francisco, California, to working actors. He was given a first name that no one could pronounce and a birthday that no one could forget. The family soon moved to Hollywood, California to seek their fame and fortune, where unfortunately, the family split up.

He was raised by two great grandmothers and Sean has often said that they were the smartest people he ever knew. Sean attended the public schools and was on the football team in High School, tennis team in college and was twice all Southern California in fast pitch softball.

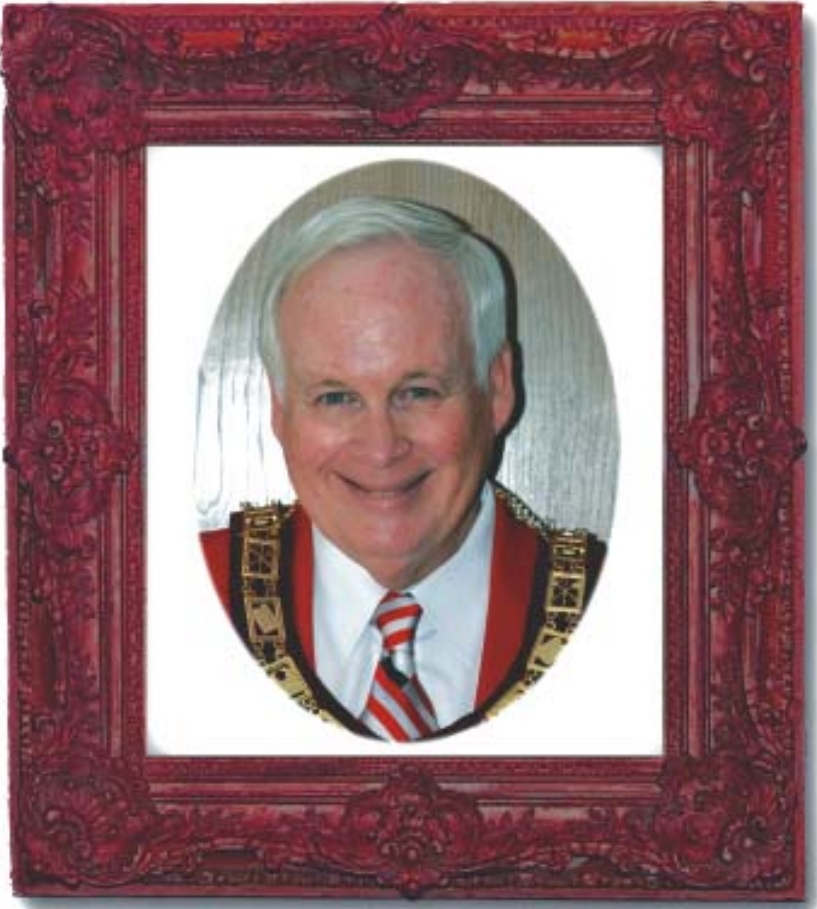
Sean loves playing paddle tennis and in 1984, he was the Los Angeles City and National mixed doubles champion, Venice Beach, in Paddle Tennis. He was also the Decathlon Club's, mens doubles and mixed doubles Champion in Northern California. Sean attributes this success to very good partners.

Sean was a member of the LC Kelley DeMolay and in 1964 he met Victoria (his favorite Rainbow Girl) at a DeMolay Installation and they were married in 1966.

Sean served in the U.S. Army, and he and Victoria were stationed in Wurtzburg, Germany with the 3rd Infantry Division. Following his honorable discharge they returned home with Patrick, their first child. They have two other children, Kelly and Heather, daughter-in-law Miranda and first grandchild, Nola Grace.

Sean is a graduate of Hollywood High School and California State University, Northridge. He received an academic scholarship to attend Mount St. Mary's College, where he received two graduate degrees. Sean studied acting at the Estelle Harmon professional actors workshop and with Lee Strasberg. He worked as a teacher, area and district advisor, Assistant Principal at a special education school, and Assistant Principal Educational Instructional Specialist, for the Los Angeles Unified School District. He recently retired after 32 years.

Sean has served three lodges on four different occasions as Master, is a Past Venerable Master and Past Wise Master of the Los Angeles Scottish Rite, and also a Past Wise Master of the newly formed San Fernando Valley Scottish Rite where he served for two years as Director of the Work. Sean has served Grand Lodge as Grand Chaplain in 1999. He has served as Grand Orator for the Grand Council and Grand Chapter. He has received several Masonic awards, but, he is most proud of being selected Commander of the Year, 2006, by the Grand Commandery of California. He was chairman of the Tobacco Control Committee, American Lung Association of Los Angeles County in the 1990's. Sean also served on their Development Committee, Executive Committee, Program and Budget Committee, Nominating Committee, and Program Committee. Sean and Victoria love to travel and have visited 98 countries. Sean is an avid reader and enjoys doing Sudoku puzzles.



**Most Excellent Companion
Sean N. Foran
Grand High Priest 2008 - 2009**

Masons Lodge." This description is thought to mean not that its members were Scots, but rather that the ritual or ceremony worked was known as "Scotch masonry," which may possibly not probably) have been originated in France by Jacobites, political refugees from Scotland.

Cryptic Masonry in Great Britain - The Council of Excellent, Royal, Select and Super-Excellent Masters was established in 1873 by four Councils which had been chartered two years earlier by the Grand Council of New York. The Grand Council of Illinois chartered Councils in Scotland in 1878, and the Scottish Grand Council was formed in 1880. In England, Cryptic Masonry consists of the Most Excellent Master (a shorter form than the one in US Royal Arch Masonry), Royal Master, Select Master, and Super Excellent Master. In England, the Cryptic Degrees are controlled by a Grand Council of Royal & Select Masters. In Scotland, the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter has jurisdiction over the Cryptic degrees, the Royal Ark Mariner degree, the Knight of the East and West; bodies of the Cryptic Rite are attached to Chapters. It is interesting to note that while Scotland received the first three degrees of the last series from American sources, the degree of Thrice Illustrious Master, taken over recently in America, was of Scottish origin.

Cryptic Rite in the USA - The credit of organizing the first Body of the Cryptic Rite in the USA must be given to Thomas Lounds. He formed with others on September 2, 1810, the "Columbia Council of Royal Master Masons" in New York. A number of warrants were granted to Councils throughout the United States and its interesting to note that some were for Councils of Royal Masters and some were for Councils of Select Masters and of course eventually the two amalgamated to form Councils of Royal and Select Masters. Grand Councils were formed at various dates in several states (Connecticut was the first in 1819) and ultimately "The General Grand Council of the United States" was formed in 1880 at Detroit Michigan, representing 19 Grand Councils. In two states (Virginia and West Virginia) the Royal and Select Master degrees are conferred in Royal Arch Chapters where they were originally developed. The General Grand Council was organized to help stop efforts to combine the Cryptic degrees in Royal Arch Masonry and to bring about more uniformity of ritual and organization in the Cryptic degrees. Although the history of the Cryptic degrees is connected with the Scottish Rite degrees, Cryptic Masonry is now a part of the York, or American Rite. In 1850 the Scottish Rite Supreme Councils claimed jurisdiction over the Cryptic degrees, but they gave up this claim in 1870. Some felt that Scottish Rite degrees (13th) cover similar ground, so the Scottish Rite did not need the Cryptic degrees. Since the discovery in the Royal Arch degree is related to the deposit mentioned in the Royal and Select Master degrees, these degrees are logically in the York Rite. Grand Councils of Royal and Select Masters exist to confer and govern the Cryptic Masonic degrees in most states and some foreign countries. However, Councils have suffered from the same loss of membership as all of Freemasonry (Coil's reported about 300, 000 Council members in 1958, and we could easily estimate less than half that now), and in many places Cryptic Masonry is today unfortunately facing a struggle to survive and continue its work. Pity!

What is "Cryptic Masonry" and the "Cryptic Rite" ? - The Cryptic Rite is "one of the smallest but one of the most important and certainly one of the most curious of all the rites," according to Coil's Masonic Encyclopedia. "Crypt" comes from a Greek word meaning "hide, conceal, or secret," and thus has come to mean a vault, cave, or other place of underground concealment. The Cryptic degrees are centered on stories involving a vault or crypt where certain treasures were hidden beneath King Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem for very specific purposes. No rite of Freemasonry has come into its own so much as the series of degrees known as the Cryptic Rite, also known as the Cryptic Masons. Its popularity is well deserved for there are no more beautiful or meaningful degrees in all Freemasonry than those conferred in the Council of Cryptic Masons. One reason for its popularity is that it completes a story, a Masonic allegory. Freemasonry is very philosophical and teaches its ideals by allegory or story. They were first called "Cryptic" by Bro. Dr. Rob Morris (1818-88), a very influential Mason in the 1800's. Councils of Cryptic Masons form the center body of the York Rite of Freemasonry. It was Bro. Jeremy Ladd Cross (1783-1861) who was the originator of the Cryptic Rite as we know it today, he was a student of Bro. Thomas Smith Webb (1771-1819), the most famous American Masonic ritualist who is often described as the "[Founding Father of the York or American Rite.](#)"

Content submission by: Nigel G.



GRAND CHAPTER ROYAL ARCH MASONS - 2008 GRAND CONVOCATION REPORT

GRAND OFFICERS

Table listing Grand Officers and their respective chapters, including Grand High Priest Sean N. Foran, Grand King Philip A. Hardiman, Grand Scribe Ted G. Hammack, Grand Treasurer Jerrold A. Wohlfarth, Grand Secretary Kenneth G. Hope, Grand Lecturer Don E. Lamoureux, Grand Chaplain North Franklin K. Andersen, Grand Chaplain South James M. Sunseri, Grand Captain of the Host James W. "Bill" Allen, Jr., Grand Principal Sojourner Robert V. Wright, Jr., Grand Royal Arch Captain Gary W. Spriggs, Grand Master of the Third Veil David E. Rush, Grand Master of the Second Veil Harvey M. Tapper, Grand Master of the First Veil Carlos Castaneda, Grand Orator Paul E. McCleary, Grand Marshal North Guy M. Chalmers, Grand Marshal South Richard B. Baskin, Grand Soloist Steven H. De Muth, Grand Musician Ernesto C. Balba Jr., Grand Sentinel Stanley R. Taub, and Assistant Grand Secretary Albert M. Lewis.

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER ROYAL ARCH MASONS INTERNATIONAL DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL IN BRONZE

Table listing Thomas A. Krummell, Roseville Chapter No. 146.

GRAND CHAPTER ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF CALIFORNIA GRAND HIGH PRIEST DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

Table listing Grand High Priests of Distinguished Service Medal: William T. Boltz (Sebastopol Chapter No. 117), Franklin K. Andersen (Red Bluff Chapter No. 40), David E. Higdon (Tulare Chapter No. 71), Bruce E. Hudson (San Gabriel Valley Chapter No. 100), and James H. Mason (Riverside Chapter No. 67).

HIGH PRIEST OF THE YEAR

Table listing High Priests of the Year by department: #1 Steven R. Goad (Kern Valley Chapter No. 75), #2 Guy M. Chalmers (Petaluma Chapter No. 22), #3 Robert A. Morrison (Chico Chapter No. 42), #4 Kim B. Andres (Santa Monica Bay Chapter No. 97), and #5 Richard D. Baskin (San Diego Chapter No. 61).

SECRETARY OF THE YEAR

Table listing Secretaries of the Year by department: Charles E. Williams (Corinthian Chapter No. 51), #2 Richard J. Jolley (Plumas Chapter No. 107), #3 Garry E. Bennis (Sonora Chapter No. 2), and #5 Thomas E. Colgan (Triangle Chapter No. 155).

MEMBERSHIP EXCELLENCE AWARD

Table listing Membership Excellence Award recipients: Stephen J. Koonrad Jr. (High Desert Chapter No. 127), David C. Del Dosso (Oxnard Chapter No. 86), James M. Sunseri (Orange County Chapter No. 73), Jerry V. Journeay (Oakland Chapter No. 36), Chapter with the highest percentage increase in membership (10.8%) (Humboldt Chapter No. 52), and Chapter with the highest number of new members (26) (Signet Chapter No. 57).

RESOLUTIONS

Table listing Resolutions: 2008-1 (To add a new Executive Standing Committee - Passed), 2008-2 (To identify the members of the Finance Committee - Passed), 2008-3 (To limit the number of members on the Credentials Committee - Passed), and 2008-4 (To list the existing Standing Committees in the Constitution and their function - Passed).

and willing service. This lesson must be learned before any Mason is qualified to know and to appreciate the Truth, the Master's Word. It is, possibly, unfortunate that the Royal Arch Degree was separated from the "Blue Degrees" - but fortunate or unfortunate - the Royal Arch stands as the last of the degrees in Ancient Craft Masonry. It is the summit, and no Master Mason is in possession of all that Freemasonry teaches without the Royal Arch. The series of four degrees continued to be conferred under a lodge charter until about 1750, in America at least. The earliest history that we have of the Royal Arch in this country was in 1753, when it was conferred under lodge charter in Fredericksburg, Virginia. It was introduced into New York about the same time by an English military lodge, and into Massachusetts in 1769, where it was conferred in St. Andrew's Lodge. Since that time the Royal Arch Degree has remained secure in its superior place.

The term "Royal Arch Lodge" was succeeded by "Chapter" and "Royal Arch Chapter." The word "Chapter" was used in Connecticut as early as September 5, 1783; in Pennsylvania, September 5, 1789; in New York, April 29, 1791; in Massachusetts, December 19, 1794. The word "Chapter" took the place of "Lodge" in England for the first time, April 29, 1768. The word "Companion," used in the Chapter in place of "Brother," was first used in England in 1778. These terms Chapter and Companion were soon carried to America, where they flourished as elements in the Capitular system of degrees.

Such, in brief, is the history of the Royal Arch Degree. Its parentage is as legitimate as any of the degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry - the fruit of symbolism and allegory. To be a Master Mason is the highest and most honorable degree that any man can attain - it entitles him to all the rights and privileges of the Craft - all the accumulated so-called higher degrees do not add anything to his Masonic stature. The Royal Arch is a part of the Master's Degree - the summit of its excellency. It is the privilege and should be the duty of all Master Masons to complete the Masonic story, told in allegory and revealed in symbolism, by receiving the Royal Arch. To be 'exalted' as one living in that future generation that shall discover IT - Act now. Talk to your local RA Chapter, or if already a member then propose a new candidate.

Cryptic Freemasonry - Whence came the Sword and Trowel?

There seems little doubt that in the 1740's there was a 'fourth' ceremony, one dealing with the rebuilding of the Temple of Zerubbabel and bringing into prominence the occasion when builders worked with sword in one hand and trowel in the other. The sword and trowel motif, derived from the Old Testament account of the return of the Jews from exile, was the pride and glory of a Crusading Order of the early Middle Ages.

According to the English Masonic researcher and scholar Robert Freke Gould (1836-1915) it had as its motif the discovery in a vault by Scottish Crusaders of the long lost and Ineffable Word. So, if as is quoted a particular Scots Masters' Lodge in London was actually working such a degree (possibly of French origin), then obviously a strong likelihood exists that some primitive form of the Royal Arch rite was actually being worked as early as 1733.

The many rituals known, says Gould, exhibit much diversity, but running through them all is the main idea of the discovery of a long lost word, while in the search leading to that discovery the Crusaders had to work with the sword in the one hand and trowel in the other. That the discovery is made in the Middle Ages by Crusaders and not by the Jews returned from exile need not unduly concern us, for we must be prepared for considerable differences between any prototype Royal Arch ceremonies and those which were later developed.

It has often been advanced that the early 'Scots' degrees contained matter which today is found not only in the Royal Arch, but in the Mark Degree. There seems little doubt that in the 1740's the Scots Degree (or degrees) was a 'fourth' ceremony, one dealing with the rebuilding of the Temple of Zerubbabel and bringing into prominence the occasion when builders worked with sword in one hand and trowel in the other.

By that time, the Royal Arch itself was known to be working in England, and it cannot be said with certainty whether the RA had learned from the Scots degrees (which is the way the evidence points) or vice versa. The possibility that English Freemasonry was subjected to Jacobite influence in the period following 1717 has often been raised. The broad suggestion is that Jacobites resident in France brought into existence the degrees known in England as 'Scots masonry' and in France as 'Macon Ecossois,' 'Maitre Ecossois,' 'Maconnerie Ecossois,' and so on and that the English Jacobites introduced this Scots masonry into England as providing convenient, safe, and secret opportunities for their fellows and adherents. This theory (there is not a shred of evidence) does not strongly appeal to English Masonic scholars, although the probability that Scots masonry (and this is not the Scottish Rite) was an importation from France may have to be conceded.

Nothing is known for certain, but it is a point of particular interest that the earliest recorded Masters' Lodge (No. 115, meeting at the Devil Tavern, Temple Bar, London) is described in the Engraved List (at that time the only approved list of lodges) as "a Scotch

Most Excellent Companion's Schedule

AUGUST 2008

- 02..... Alameda - Grand York Rite Reception
- 03..... Palo Alto - Grand York Rite Reception
- 09..... Orange County Festival Class - P.S.
- 16..... Riverside - York Rite Unity Program
- 20..... Howard Chapter, #14, Grand Chapter Reception
- 22 - 24 Arizona Grand Sessions/Scottsdale, AZ.
- 28 - 31 43rd Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter

SEPTEMBER 2008

- 05..... Van Nuys - Grand Chapter Reception
- 06..... Santa Monica Chapter G.Y.R. Reception
- 12..... Santa Monica - Grand York Rite Reception
- 13..... Signet Chapter Festival Class - P.S.
- 19..... Roseville - Grand York Rite Reception
- 20..... San Mateo - Grand Chapter Reception
- 21..... Salinas - Grand York Rite Reception
- 26 - 28 Grand Lodge

OCTOBER 2008

- 02..... Bellflower - Grand Council Reception
- 03..... Van Nuys - L.A. 9 Class
- 19 - 21 Laughlin, NV. Festival Class
- 27..... Santa Monica - Grand York Rite Reception
- 31 - 2 Henderson, NV. Southwest Conference

NOVEMBER 2008

- 13..... Bellflower - Grand Chapter Reception
- 15..... Visalia - Grand Guardian Installation of Officers
- 25..... Modesto - Grand Council Reception

CALIFORNIA ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS

CALIFORNIA No. 1	TRIPLE TAU No. 33	SAN DIEGO No. 61	SANTA MONICA BAY No. 97
SONORA No. 2	NAVAL No. 35	SAN LUIS No. 62	SAN GABRIEL VALLEY No. 100
SACRAMENTO No. 3	OAKLAND No. 36	DORIC No. 66	MARIN No. 102
NEVADA No. 6	RED BLUFF No. 40	RIVERSIDE No. 67	PLUMAS No. 107
SHASTA No. 9	CHICO No. 42	TULARE No. 71	IMPERIAL VALLEY No. 109
ST. JAMES No. 11	SOLANO No. 43	ORANGE COUNTY No. 73	SEBASTOPOL No. 117
MERCED No. 12	VISALIA No. 44	HANFORD No. 74	HIGH DESERT No. 127
WASHINGTON No. 13	SANTA ROSA No. 45	KERN VALLEY No. 75	TYRE CHAPTER No. 130
HOWARD No. 14	WOODLAND No. 46	POMONA No. 76	VAN NUYS No. 135
CYRUS No. 15	MODESTO No. 49	REDLANDS No. 77	ROSEVILLE No. 146
FRANKLIN No. 20	VENTURA No. 50	AZUSA No. 80	NORRIS C. VILES No. 153
PETALUMA No. 22	CORINTHIAN No. 51	LONG BEACH No. 84	TRIANGLE No. 155
DELTA No. 27	HUMBOLDT No. 52	OXNARD No. 86	DOWNEY No. 157
STOCKTON No. 28	KEYSTONE No. 56	WHITTIER No. 91	KERN RIVER No. 162
NAPA No. 30	SIGNET No. 57	PALO ALTO No. 93	GOLDEN STATE RESEARCH
ANCIENT-ANTIOCH No. 31	SALINAS No. 59	KING SOLOMON'S No. 95	

and Illinois, to the frequently used one- or three-letter keys. In two jurisdictions, a cipher ritual is published, but its use is strictly controlled. However, there are 13 jurisdictions that still do not allow cipher rituals of any kind. These jurisdictions still use the mouth-to-ear method of instruction for their ritual work. Some of these jurisdictions have such strict laws governing the printing of a ritual, that any brother who does such may be removed from the Craft.

Business in the Entered Apprentice Degree

A re-emerging process is happening here in the states, 16 jurisdictions now allow lodge business to be conducted in the Entered Apprentice Degree. This was commonplace until the various Grand Lodges adopted the Baltimore Convention ritual.

Conclusion

So, the next time you find yourself in a different state (or country) stop on in and check out the ritual. You may find yourself invigorated by the experience.

Content submission by: Nigel G.



The Necessity of the Royal Arch Degree to the Master Mason

The system of Masonic degrees, as now practiced, is the product of an evolution. Prior to 1717 there is no record that Freemasonry consisted of more than one degree. The symbolism, the beautiful lecture, the ornate diction, with which we find it clothed today, represents the growth and development from the crude and transition stage of past centuries. Strictly speaking, there was no degree from the dawn of Freemasonry until it began to take on the speculative feature. The Mason, prior to the 'Revival' of 1717, was designated as an Apprentice, Fellowcraft, or Master, not because of any special ceremony or degree work, but because of the length of time of service and skill manifested in his handiwork. The Ancient Charges and Regulations, as read to the apprentices, referred to the duties they owed to each other, to the lodge and the Holy Church. It is even doubted by some of our best historians that the grip and password were connected with these ancient ceremonies.

The introduction of the speculative Mason prepares the way for the dawn of Freemasonry. The so-called 'Revival' of 1717 was but the bursting forth of the evolutionary forces that had been slowly developing for half a century. These same forces are at work today, so that it can truly be said that Freemasonry is a progressive science. Masonic historians are agreed that some time between 1723 and 1730 the Second and Third degrees were evolved, and in the evolution of degrees, ritualism and symbolism were developed, resulting in the intellectual and philosophical Freemasonry of today. The central idea of the entire system of Freemasonry became the "loss" and the "recovery" of the "Word," symbolizing death and the resurrection, the ending of the present and the beginning of the future life.

The Royal Arch stands as the rainbow of promise of the resurrection; of that which was lost and that which shall be recovered. In our present ritual of the Third Degree the Master's Word is lost - **the "Word" was never lost but transferred to the Royal Arch.** Before the legend of Hiram Abif was introduced in the Master's Degree the True Word was communicated in the Master's Degree and not a substitute Word. It necessarily followed that when the legend of HA became a part of the ritual of this degree the "loss" of the "Word" followed, as the "loss" is a part of the Hiram legend. But the "loss" without a "recovery" would be an absurdity; to complete the symbolism of Freemasonry, the "Word" must be recovered, hence the necessity for a Fourth Degree, the Royal Arch. **In 1738, or earlier, the story of the loss of the "Word" and the new legend, the Royal Arch, were gradually introduced into the lodges,** and when the Freemasonry of England was divided into the 'Moderns' and 'Ancients' (in 1751), the latter organizing a Grand Lodge and adopting ritual of four degrees, the fourth being the Royal Arch. The Grand Lodge of 'Moderns' evidently continued to use the old ritual, without the legend of HA, while the Grand Lodge of 'Ancients' used the new ritual containing the Hiram legend and the Fourth Degree, until the year 1813, when the two Grand Lodges united and formed the present United Grand Lodge of England. It is therefore to the Grand Lodge of Ancients that we owe the Master's degree as found in our ritual and also the preservation of the Royal Arch degree. We see, therefore, that the Royal Arch is merely the evolution of a truth contained in the early Third Degree.

The Master Masons Degree without the Royal Arch is a story half told, a song half sung and a promise unfulfilled. The candidate is promised that he should receive, but is put off with a "substitute." He is left in darkness, in doubt, and to the thoughtful one, in a condition of disappointment. Yet, there is a purpose behind this seeming deception. Light and revealed Truth come only through toil

but two cases, it is the only ritual sanctioned by the Grand Lodge.

Old Ancients

The exclusive ritual used by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. This ritual's name is actually derived from the fact that it was the ritual of the Ancient's Grand Lodge during the schism of the Ancients and Moderns (1751–1813). Interesting to note here that the original Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania (of which Benjamin Franklin was Grand Master in 1734) was later part of the Modern's Grand Lodge (and Franklin served as the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Pennsylvania for the Moderns). The first Pennsylvania lodge to be chartered by the Ancients was established in 1758, and their Provincial Grand Lodge was chartered in 1761. The Moderns Provincial Grand Lodge ceased to function in 1785, and the 1786 the Ancients Provincial Grand Lodge declared their independence from England. The work of the "Old Ancients" ritual can best be compared to the work done by Calcutt and Hutchinson prior to 1772 when Preston started working on the ritual.

Many brethren confuse the "Old Ancients" ritual with that of the English Emulation Ritual. This is not possible though, as the Emulation Ritual is a result of the Lodge of Promulgation that worked out the differences between the Ancient's and Modern's rituals in 1814, after the reconciliation and formation of the United Grand Lodge of England. There are 4 lodges in Pennsylvania that do their work in the Pennsylvania Dutch dialect. Including one in Philadelphia that also conducts their business meetings in this dialect.

Scottish Rite

A unique Masonic experience awaits the brethren from the Webb-form jurisdictions if they attend one of the 10 lodges in the 16th Masonic District of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. These lodges, predominately located in and around New Orleans, conduct their work using the ritual for the symbolic degrees as developed by the Scottish Rite. This ritual of these lodges was developed in 1807 when three Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the Supreme Council in Kingston, Jamaica created the "Grand Consistory of Louisiana," which included not only a Craft Lodge, but also a Lodge of Perfection and a Consistory. The Grand Consistory actually worked all 33 degrees of the Scottish Rite. (An interesting side note the first of the Lodges that works the ritual was formed in 1793 – so the SR ritual was not the first ritual they worked).

Before you ask why a body from outside the country established a Grand Consistory in Louisiana when the Supreme Council was already established in Charleston, understand that in the 1802 "Manifesto" of the new Supreme Council at Charleston they included the first three degrees in their system. The Grand Lodge of South Carolina was not pleased with that decision, so the Supreme Council "traded" their symbolic lodge degrees in order to be able to continue their work. The work that is used by these lodges is a work that is older than the work created by Albert Pike for the Symbolic Degrees, and is more closely aligned to the work used in the Grand Lodge of France.

The SR Northern Masonic Jurisdiction never assumed control over the symbolic lodge degrees. However, the Cerneau Council did, and that may have ultimately lead to their downfall, since they were treading on the ground controlled by the Grand Lodges. I said that the work of the Scottish Rite Symbolic Lodge is quiet beautiful, and retains much of the symbolism found in European Masonry.

Conservators Ritual

While officially, the Grand Lodge of Kentucky uses a Webb-form ritual, there are many local lodges that prefer to use the work of Rob Morris, Past Grand Master of Kentucky. **The Conservators Ritual** has a place in Michigan Masonic history as well. It was nearly adopted by that Grand Lodge in 1861. **Rob Morris started the "Conservators of Symbolical Masonry" in 1859.** The Conservator movement was based, on a book called "Mnemonics" which was a key to all the Esoteric and Exoteric work. Using this key, the Conservator ritual could be read by anyone. Keep in mind, that at this time, all ritual work was mouth-to-ear, there were few "instructors" of Masonic Ritual, and even fewer Grand Lecturers. Most lodges never received formal instruction in the ritual, so the "rank and file" quickly embraced a system that allowed easier access to learning the ritual. In reality, the Conservator movement was an attempt to form a "United Grand Lecturers". Most lodges never received formal instruction in the ritual, so the "rank and file" quickly embraced a system that allowed easier access to learning the ritual. In reality, the Conservator movement was an attempt to form a "United Grand Lodge" of the United States, with Rob Morris as the Chief Conservator. (For those of you who remember your Masonic history, you will note that Morris also proclaimed himself the "Chief Constellation" of the Order of Eastern Star.) It was the "Committee of Nine" from the Grand Lodge of Michigan that found, and published, Rob Morris' 12-points of the "Charge of True Conservatism," in which he proclaims that all members to obey all summons sent to them by the Chief Conservator, and that all works of the movement were secret, to consider all documents issued by the Conservators to be private correspondence with the Chief Conservator. That aside, the work of the Conservators is also based on Preston-Webb, with changes that Rob Morris, the "Poet Laureate" of American Freemasonry deemed to be necessary.

Other Ritualistic Information

Ritual Ciphers - 38 jurisdictions have published rituals of some kind. These range from "plain text" as published in Connecticut

Frederick James Potter was born on April 8, 1945 in Portland, Maine to Elizabeth L. Potter and Damase F. Potter. He was educated in the Portland Public School system and attended Southern Maine Vocational Technical Institute in South Portland and received an A.A. degree in Marine Technology. In June 1967 he came to California with 4 school friends. Employed by the Department of the Navy for 33 years, retiring on January 2, 2001 He married Donna on November 19, 1982. They have no children.

Fred served as Chapter Dad in 1971 until 1975 in Camarillo Chapter Order of DeMolay, and served as Chairman of the Advisory Council from 1976 through 1978. He received the Cross of Honor and is a Charter Life Member of the DeMolay Alumni Association.

Raised a Master Mason 1-6-67 in Corner Stone Lodge No. 216 A.F. & A.M. of Maine, Fred also joined the Scottish Rite - Valley of Portland in, as well as Kora Shrine Temple, Lewiston, ME in 1967.

In 1976 Fred affiliated with Camarillo Lodge No. 824. Becoming Master in 1976, he again served as Master in 2005 when that lodge consolidated with Channel Islands Lodge No. 214.

As Master in 1976 he started the Camarillo Lodge Maine Lobster and Steak Picnic which ran for 29 years. He was the first Hiram Award recipient in Ventura County in 1979. Member of the grand Lodge of CA Masonic Homes Endowment Board from 1977 through 1986 and 1998-2003 Life member of Santa Barbara Scottish Rite. Served as Commander of the Council of Kadosh in 1995. Charter Member of Valley of Ventura County Scottish Rite. Served as Commander of the Council of Kadosh in 1982, Master of the Kadosh of the Consistory in 1995 and Venerable Master in 1997. Recipient of the Meritorious Service Award in 1996.

Fred received the Knight Commander of the Court of Honor (KCCH) on 10-21-85, coronated an Honorary Inspector General of the 33 degree in 1995, and has serviced as the Personal Representative of the S.G.I.G. and Deputy of CA since 1998. Additional offices held are, Oxnard Chapter No. 86 Royal Arch Masons 4-8-78, Life member; Ventura Council No. 15 Cryptic Masons 4-8-78; Illustrious Master in 2001 and Life Member of San Diego Commandery No. 25 Knights Templar 1-31-81.

Fred is also a Rob Morris recipient and Past Patron of Camarillo Chapter No. 649 and a member of Channel Island Chapter No. 96, Order of the Eastern Star. Pacifica Conclave Red Cross of Constantine. Puissant Sovereign 2003 Royal Order of Scotland. Life member of Robert the Bruce Assn. And Clan Kilbrannan which he is Secretary/Treasurer from 1996 to the present. Past President of National Sojourner's Chapter No. 494 Past Commander of West Point Camp (200) , Hero's of '76 Past Sovereign Master (2005) of Channel Coast Council No. 114, AMD Past Governor of St. Alban York Rite College No. 130, Sovereign York Rite College of North America Brian Boru Council No. 38, Knight Masons. Appointed Grand Sentinel of the Grand Council Cryptic Masons of California on April 28, 2003.



**Most Illustrious Grand Master
Frederick J. Potter
Illustrious Grand Master 2008 - 2009**

GRAND COUNCIL CRYPTIC MASONS - 2008 GRAND ASSEMBLY REPORT

GRAND OFFICERS

Most Illustrious Grand Master	Federick J. Potter	Ventura Council No. 15
Deputy Grand Master	Mark R. Sandstrom	Foothill Council No. 42
Grand Principal Conductor the Work	Martin F. McKeay	Redwood Empire Council No. 46
Grand Treasurer	James G. Baum, MIPGM	Redwood Empire Council No. 46
Grand Recorder	Kenneth G. Hope, (H)MIPGM.....	Shekinah Council No. 35
Grand Director of Ritual	Fenton R. Mereness	San Jose Council No. 20
Grand Chaplain (North).....	Thomas A. Krummell.....	Roseville Council No. 54
Grand Chaplain (South).....	John A. Argue	Ventura Council No. 15
Grand Captain of the Guard	Robert A. L. Whitfield	Oakland Council No. 12
Grand Conductor of the Council	Raymond D. Godeke	Orange County Council No. 14
Grand Steward	Richard W. Williamson	King Solomon's Council No. 29
Grand Sentinel	David L. Chesebro	San Luis Obispo Council No. 38
Grand Orator	Arthur H. Weiss	Omega Council No. 11
Grand Marshal (North)	David P. Glass	Gateway Council No. 13
Grand Marshal (South)	Frederick W. Ervast Jr.	Ventura Council No. 15
Grand Soloist	E. Floyd Griffin	Ventura Council No. 15
Grand Organist	Glen W. Neikirk.....	Ventura Council No. 15
Grand Bible Bearer	Kenneth W. Fowler	San Luis Obispo Council No. 38
Grand Standard Bearer	Jack H. "Jay" Devers Jr.	Pomona Council No. 21
Assistant Grand Recorder	Albert M. Lewis	Shekinah Council No. 35

GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL CRYPTIC MASONS INTERNATIONAL

Cryptic Mason of the Year	Marshall F. Parker	Riverside Council No. 59
Adult Leadership Award	Saundra Coe	
Lady of the Council	Katie Ryland	

**GRAND COUNCIL CRYPTIC MASONS OF CALIFORNIA
ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER OF THE YEAR**

David C. Del Dosso	Ventura Council No. 15
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RECORDER OF THE YEAR

Steven M. Fowler	Stockton Council No. 10
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DISTINGUISHED MEMBERSHIP AWARD

James M. Sunseri	Orange County Council No. 14
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MEMBERSHIP EXCELLENCE AWARD

Stephen J. Koonrad Jr.	Oasis Council No. 64
Carlos H. Gonzalez	Omega Council No. 11
Council with the highest percentage increase in membership (12.9%)	Pacific Council No. 37
Council with the highest increase in number of members (28)	Orange County Council No. 14

GRAND MASTER of ISH SODI AWARD

John T. Giertz	Redwood Empire Council No. 46
William B. Jefferies	Butte Council No. 50
Steven R. Goad	Bakersfield Council No. 28
Charles E. Williams	Ventura Council No. 15
George W. Morton	Orange County Council No. 14
Paul E. McCleary	Helix Council No. 58

RITUALIST OF THE YEAR

Ritualist for the State	Robert K. Elefante	King Solomon's Council No.29
Ritualist for Department #2	Gary L. Schlusser	Nevada Council No. 62
Ritualist for Department #3	Craig A. Sanborn	Bakersfield Council No. 28
Ritualist for Department #4	Ronald E. Presser	Omega Council No. 11
Ritualist for Department #5	Harvey B. Lyman	Alhambra Council No. 25
Ritualist for Department #6	J. William Allen Jr.	Helix Council No. 58

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2008-1 To extend the \$1.00 Special Assessment by 10 years.....	Passed
Resolution 2008-2 To raise the Per Capita Tax by \$3.00	Passed

AWARDS & HONORS



Presentation of Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons scholarship to Miss Cinnamon Roy - Past Grand Worthy Advisor. *L to R: EHP John Gamache, MEC Jerry Wohlfarth, Miss Roy, & GPS Bill Allan*



Presentation of Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons scholarship to Miss Shannyn Allan - Past Grand Worthy Advisor. *L to R: Miss Shannyn Allan, GCO Paul McCleary*



• **June 8:** Sir Knight Commander Franklin R. Lee and Sir Knight Past Commander Virgil Minks presented the Grand Commander's Award of Excellence to Moreno Valley Bethel representative Bonnie Judge, Moreno Valley DeMolay representative Peter Serbantes, and Riverside Bethel representative Richard Bonilla for their dedication to our Masonic Youth Groups.



Job's Daughters Bethel #35 Installation on Sunday June 8, 2008.

• **June 11:** Sir Knight Commander Franklin R. Lee was joined by 5 other Sir Knights to present the Grand Commander's Award of Excellence to Jody Macdonald who works with the Rainbow Assembly. The award was presented during the Rainbow Installation of Helen G. McCallum - Assembly #207.

• **June 14:** Sir Knights also presented the Grand Commander's Award of Excellence to Lynette Channon during the Bethel #264 Installation ceremonies in Riverside. The event was held at the Evergreen Masonic Center.

ITEMS OF NOTE...

Content Submission Guide & Schedule

- Standard data submission deadlines are as follows; **1st quarter** issue [December 1st], **2nd quarter** issue [March 1st], **3rd quarter** issue [June 1st], and **4th quarter** issue [September 1st].
- Data types; received after dates noted above will be scheduled for publishing in the following quarterly issue; data & graphic types...pdf, doc, docx, xls, xlsx, and txt...jpeg, tiff, bmp; and most general digital files.
- Submissions over 8MB in volume must be submitted by *FTP. Contact the editor. *(File Transfer Protocol).
- Articles about your Chapter, Council and Commandery wanted.

SUBJECT: Super Excellent Master Degree

Companions:

This is to announce that a Super Excellent Master Degree conferral will take place on Saturday, October 4, 2008 at San Francisco Scottish Rite, 2850 Nineteenth Avenue, San Francisco. To accommodate travelers from outside the San Francisco Bay Area, this will be an afternoon conferral. A buffet lunch will precede conferral of the degree.

This degree has not been conferred in Northern California in several years. The San Francisco Scottish Rite facility contains the third largest stage in San Francisco. It is equipped with the latest state of the art theatrical lighting and sound systems as well as beautiful scenery. This will be a spectacular theatrical as well as ritualistic experience.

Mark Harris, Illustrious Master of Oakland Council #12, has accepted the position of Director of the Ritual. He is seeking to form an all-star cast of ritualists. There are over 50 large parts, small parts and non-speaking parts to be filled. Illustrious Mark may be reached at 415-922-2916 and mark@songmaster1.com. Please contact Illustrious Mark to volunteer or to refer others.

Grand Commander's Itinerary

JULY 2008

- 03 - 04 Valencia 4th of July Parade LA #9
- 05 San Luis Obispo GYR Ice Cream Social #27
- 11 - 13 Scottsdale, AZ RCC Southwest Regional
- 19 Rosemead GC Reception #31/51/63

AUGUST 2008

- 02 Alameda GYR Reception #11/59
- 03 Palo Alto GYR Reception BBQ #1
- 07 San Diego Luncheon Meeting RCC
- 07 San Carlos Stated Meeting ESD #561
- 16 Riverside York Rite Unity Program w/S.R.
- 17 Rosemead York Rite College #110
- 22 - 24 Scottsdale, AZ York Rite Grand Sessions
- 31 Woodland Hills DeMolay Grand Banquet

SEPTEMBER 2008

- 04 San Diego Luncheon Meeting RCC
- 04 San Carlos Stated Meeting ESD #561
- 05 Van Nuys GC Reception LA #9
- 06 Santa Monica GYR Reception #61
- 12 Santa Monica GYR Reception LA Scottish Rite
- 14 Riverside BBQ #23/28/79
- 19 Roseville GYR Reception Dept. 6/7
- 20 San Mateo GC Reception #16
- 21 Salinas GYR BBQ Reception #10/22/47
- 26 - 28 San Francisco Grand Lodge/Banquet

OCTOBER 2008

- 03 San Diego Luncheon Meeting RCC
- 03 San Carlos Stated Meeting ESD #561
- 18 Fresno Eastern Star Grand Sessions
- 19 - 21 Laughlin Colorado River Fall Festival
- 25 San Diego Commandery Festival
- 31 Los Angeles Southwestern Conference

NOVEMBER 2008

- 06 San Diego Luncheon Meeting RCC
- 06 San Carlos Stated Meeting ESD #561
- 12 Visalia Job's Grand Guardian Council

DECEMBER 2008

- 03 Riverside Stated Conclave #28
- 04 San Diego Luncheon Meeting RCC
- 04 San Carlos Stated Meeting ESD #561

JANUARY 2009

- 02 Imperial Stated Conclave/Installation #54
- 08 San Diego Luncheon Meeting RCC
- 08 San Carlos Stated Meeting ESD #561

FEBRUARY 2009

- 05 San Diego Luncheon Meeting RCC
- 05 San Carlos Stated Meeting ESD #561
- 06 - 07 Bakersfield Grand Officers Conference
- 15 Rosemead York Rite College #110

MARCH 2009

- 05 San Diego Luncheon Meeting RCC
- 05 San Carlos Stated Meeting ESD #561
- 06 - 8 Monrovia Amaranth Grand Court

APRIL 2009

- 03 San Diego Luncheon Meeting RCC
- 03 San Carlos Stated Meeting ESD #561
- 04 - 09 Fresno Rainbow for Girls Annual Assembly
- 05 Bellflower Easter Observance #36
- 25 - 29 Bakersfield Grand Sessions

CALIFORNIA KNIGHTS TEMPLAR COMMANDERYS

CALIFORNIA No. 1
SACRAMENTO No. 2
PACIFIC No. 3
EL DORADO No. 4
BUTTE No. 5
NEVADA No. 6
MARYSVILLE No. 7
STOCKTON No. 8
LOS ANGELES No. 9
SAN JOSE No. 10
OAKLAND No. 11
QUINCY-LASSEN No. 13
SANTA ROSA No. 14
GOLDEN GATE No. 16
RED BLUFF No. 17
VENTURA No. 18
NAVAL OUTPOST No. 19
ROSEWOOD No. 21
WATSONVILLE No. 22
ST. BERNARD No. 23
SAN DIEGO No. 25
VISALIA OUTPOST No. 26
SAN LUIS OBISPO No. 27
RIVERSIDE No. 28
ST. OMER No. 30
SAN GABRIEL VALLEY No. 31
MOUNT SHASTA No. 32
EUREKA No. 35
ORANGE COUNTY No. 36
S. CALIFORNIA OUTPOST No. 37
VACAVILLE No. 38
BAKERSFIELD No. 39
LONG BEACH No. 40
GOLDEN WEST No. 43
HANFORD No. 46
PALO ALTO No. 47
REDDING No. 50
WHITTIER-ST. JOHNS No. 51
AUBURN No. 52
IMPERIAL VALLEY No. 54
MODESTO No. 57
CONTRA COSTA No. 59
SANTA MONICA BAY No. 61
FOOTHILL No. 63
TULARE No. 66
MERCED OUTPOST No. 69
HIGH DESERT No. 79

PG 10
PG 7

Most Illustrious Grand Master's Schedule

SEPTEMBER 2008

- Monday, **September 1**, 2008 Labor Day
- Friday, September 5, 200 L.A. #9 Reception for Grand Commander 6:30 Dinner, Reception afterwards
- Saturday, September 6, 2008: VCSRB Fall Class (Part I) 7:30 AM
- Saturday, September 6, 2008 Santa Monica Bay York Rite Reception @ Sunset Masonic Center, 1720 Ocean Park Blvd/Santa Monica, CA - 6 PM Social 6:30 Dinner details to follow?
- Monday, September 8, 2008: Ventura County Scottish Rite stated meeting 6:30 PM
- Wednesday, September 17, 2008 Reception Redwood Empire Council No. 46, Sebastopol Masonic Temple/373 N. Main Sebastopol, California 6:30 Dinner 7:30 Assembly
- Friday, September 19, 2008: York Rite Reception in Roseville Masonic Center, 235 Vernon St/ Roseville, CA 95678
- Saturday, September 20, 2008: York Rite Reception in San Mateo 100 N. Ellsworth Ave/San Mateo, CA 94401
- Sunday, September 21, 2008: York Rite Reception in Salinas at 48 E. San Joaquin St/Salinas, CA 93901
- Sunday, September 21, 2008: Pacifica Conclave Red Cross of Constantine 5 PM

OCTOBER 2008

- Thursday, October 2, 2008: Shekinah Council #35 Dinner & Reception 6:30 PM
- Friday, October 3, 2008 Omega Council #11 Dinner at 6:30 PM and Reception to follow at 7:30 PM/Van Nuys Masonic Center @14750 Sherman Way/Van Nuys
- Saturday, October 18, 2008 Fresno, Eastern Star Grand Sessions?
- Sunday - Wednesday, October 26-29, 2008: Col. River Fall Festival (www.crff.org)
- Friday- Sunday, October 31- November 1, 2008; Southwest Conference in Henderson, NV details to follow?

NOVEMBER 2008

- Sunday, November 2, 2008: Clan Kilbrannan meeting in Solvang, CA 5 PM
- Monday, November 10, 2008: Ventura County Scottish Rite stated meeting 6:30 PM
- Tuesday, November 11, 2008 Veteran's Day
- Friday, November 14, Long Beach Marriott 6 PM Reception - Dinner 7 PM
50th Anniversary Celebration of the California Scottish Rite Foundation
- Saturday, November 15, 2008: CSRF Meeting 11:30 Long Beach? 11 AM
- Wednesday, November 19, 2008: OUR 25th Wedding Anniversary
- Monday, November 24, 2008 Reception at Modesto Masonic Center/800 Rose Ave., Modesto, CA for Modesto Council #61 and Sonora Council #5
- Thursday, November 27, 2008 Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER 2008

- Monday, December 8, 2008: Ventura County Scottish Rite stated meeting 6:30 PM
- Thursday, December 25, 2008 Christmas Day

CALIFORNIA CRYPTIC COUNCILS

SACRAMENTO No. 1	ORANGE COUNTY No. 14	BAKERSFIELD No. 28	SIERRA NEVADA No. 44
CALIFORNIA No. 2	VENTURA No. 15	KING SOLOMON'S No. 29	REDWOOD EMPIRE No. 46
MARYSVILLE No. 3	SANTA CRUZ No. 17	AMADOR No. 31	MERCED No. 47
SONORA No. 5	SAN JOSE No. 20	SHEKINAH No. 35	BUTTE No. 50
SHASTA No. 6	POMONA No. 21	PACIFIC No. 37	PALO ALTO No. 51
STOCKTON No. 10	SAN DIEGO No. 23	SAN LUIS OBISPO No. 38	ROSEVILLE No. 54
OMEGA No. 11	ALHAMBRA No. 25	ALPHA No. 39	HELIX No. 58
OAKLAND No. 12	LONG BEACH No. 26	FOOTHILL No. 42	RIVERSIDE No. 59
GATEWAY No. 13	VALLEY No. 27	VISALIA No. 43	IMPERIAL VALLEY No. 60

Gary D. Miller was born December 4, 1944 in Hollywood, California. He grew up in El Segundo graduating from El Segundo High School in 1962. He earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Health Care Management from California State University at Fresno in 1980. Besides working for McDonnell Douglas and Mattel Toys, he also worked for a number of years with family businesses in the health care and travel industry. The last several years, he has been employed as the business manager for a painting contractor.



**Sir Knight
Gary D. Miller
Grand Commander 2008 - 2009**

Sir Knight Gary and his lady Kathy have been married for 38 years. They met in El Segundo as a result of being involved in Masonic activities. They lived in El Segundo, moved to Hanford in the San Joaquin Valley for 10 years, and relocated to El Cajon (the warmer part of San Diego) in 1984. They have two married daughters, (who graduated from college with teaching degrees) and five grandchildren (four knights and a princess) located in Redlands, CA. and Noblesville, Ind.

Kathy and both daughters were active in Job's Daughters with Kathy being Bethel Guardian, Deputy Grand Guardian, and a 1994 Grand Officer for the Grand Guardian Council. Both daughters are Past Honored Queens and former Grand Bethel Girls.

Sir Knight Gary received his DeMolay Degree in El Segundo Chapter serving as Master Councilor in April 1963. He also served as Chapter Dad and Chairman of the Board. He was invested with the DeMolay Legion of Honor in 1999. Sir Knight Gary has also served on the board for the El Segundo Rainbow Assembly; and as Associate Bethel Guardian for El Cajon Job's Daughters Bethel #196.

Sir Knight Gary was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in May of 1966 in El Segundo Lodge #507, currently South Bay Lodge #421, serving as its Master in 1971. He has also served as Master of Hanford Lodge #279 and East San Diego Lodge #561, where he is currently serving as its Officer's Coach. He was appointed Senior Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of California by Most

Worshipful R. Stephen Doan in 1992. During this period, he also served on the Wardens Retreat and Masonic Speakers Panel serving as chairman of both committees.

Sir Knight Gary was knighted in San Diego Commandery #25 in 1983 and served as its Commander in 1989. He is currently a member of Riverside Commandery #28 serving as their Commander in 2002. He has served as an Inspector, Assistant Director of Ritual and Director of Ritual. He also served as Chairman of the Youth Activities Committee for several years. He was honored with the Knight Templar Cross of Honor in 2001 and in the same year was appointed as Grand Warder by Sir Knight Marshall F. Parker, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander. He progressed through the line and was elected and installed Right Eminent Grand Commander on the April 28, 2008.

Sir Knight Gary is currently a member of Riverside Royal Arch Chapter #67 serving as its High Priest in 2001 and a member of Riverside Council #57 Cryptic Masons. He has also been the presiding officer of El Capitan Royal Arch Chapter #146, now San Diego Chapter #61; and Past Illustrious Master of San Diego Council #23, Cryptic Masons. He has been the presiding officer of: Societas Rosicruciana in Vivitatibus Foederatis - Southern California; Kilkinney Council #33, Knight Masons; San Diego Conclave Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, Inkopah Council #86, AMD; and San Diego York Rite College #148; He was invested with the Order of the Purple Cross in 2006 from Southern California York Rite College #110. Sir Knight Gary received his 32 in Los Angeles Valley Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in 1967 and was invested with Knight Commander of the Court of Honour (2001) from the same valley. He is also a member of San Diego Valley. Sir Knight Gary walked the hot sands at Al Malaikah Shrine Temple in November 1967 and is a member of the Al Bahr Shrine in San Diego. He also belongs to the Royal Order of Scotland and numerous other Masonic organizations. His travel industry experience allowed him and Kathy to travel to various sites in the US, Mexico, Europe, England, Scotland and Japan. Now most travel is to Indianapolis and Redlands to visit family (grandkids) and for various Masonic duties.

GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR - 2008 GRAND CONCLAVE REPORT

GRAND OFFICERS

Grand Commander	Gary D. Miller	Riverside Commandery No. 28
Deputy Grand Commander	William D. Robertson	Naval Commandery No. 19
Grand Generalissimo	David J. Kussman	Orange County Commandery No. 38
Grand Captain General	Casey W. Norris	Vacaville Commandery No. 38
Grand Senior Warden	Howard W. "Bud" Ramsey	San Jose Commandery No. 10
Grand Junior Warden	Myron A. Tisdell	Redding Commandery No. 50
Grand Prelate	Fr. Charles E. Maier	Orange County Commandery No. 36
Grand Treasurer	O. Reed Bollin, PGC	Golden West Commandery No. 43
Grand Recorder	Kenneth G. Hope, (H)PGC	Golden West Commandery No. 43
Grand Standard Bearer	Carlos H. Gonzales	Los Angeles Commandery No. 9
Grand Sword Bearer	Fenton R. Mereness	Naval Commandery No. 19
Grand Warder	Stephen E. Alderete	St. Bernard Commandery No. 23
Grand Sentinel	James H. Mason	Riverside Commandery No. 28
Organist	John E. Vanderby	Golden Gate Commandery No. 16

GRAND ENCAMPMENT KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE U.S.A.

KNIGHT TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR

Carlos H. Gonzalez	Los Angeles Commandery No. 9
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KNIGHT COMMANDER OF THE TEMPLE

Milton M. Abbott, Jr.	Eureka Commandery No. 35
Frederick G. Kleyn III	San Diego Commandery No. 25

COMPANION OF THE TEMPLE

Lady LuAnn Baum
Lady Sandra Coe

**GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF CALIFORNIA
COMMANDER OF THE YEAR**

James M. Sunseri	Orange County Commandery No. 36
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RECORDER OF THE YEAR

David P. Glass	Auburn Commandery No. 52
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DISTINGUISHED MEMBERSHIP AWARD

Stephen J. Koonrad Jr.	High Desert Commandery No. 79
James M. Sunseri	Orange County Commandery No. 36
Jerry V. Journeay	Oakland Commandery No. 11

MEMBERSHIP EXCELLENCE AWARD

Kenneth G. Hope	Golden West Commandery No. 43
Carlos H. Gonzalez	Los Angeles Commandery No. 9
Commandery with the highest percentage increase (13.5%)	Orange County No. 36
Commandery with the highest increase in the number of members (35)	Orange County No. 36

DRILL TEAM COMPETITION

Class "B"	Los Angeles Commandery No. 9	902 points
Class "C" 1st Place Champion	Golden West Commandery No. 43	951 points
Class "C" 2nd Place	Orange County Commandery No. 36	910 points
Class "C" 3rd Place	California Commandery No. 1	870 points

CROSS & CROWN AWARD

Commandery of the Year for Department 1	High Desert Commandery No. 79
Commandery of the Year for Department 2	Whittier St. Johns Commandery No. 51
Commandery of the Year for Department 3	Bakersfield Commandery No. 39
Commandery of the Year for Department 4	California Commandery No. 1
Commandery of the Year for Department 7	Auburn Commandery No. 52

COMMANDERY OF THE YEAR

Orange County Commandery No. 36

OUTSTANDING MEMBERS OF THE RITUAL STAFF

Sir Knight Steven H. Potter

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2007-1	To update the introductions in the Manual of Ceremonies	Passed
Resolution 2007-2	To specify the size of the sleeve crosses	Passed