

June
2014



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Sword and Trowel

Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of California

Most Illustrious Companion David L. Chesebro, KYGCH
154th Grand Master Cryptic Masons
California

June 2014

Volume 2 No. 1

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Grand Council Cryptic Masons

Thank You: I want to thank all the members of the Most Illustrious Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of California and the members of its constituent Councils for the honor of electing me to serve as your Grand Master at Grand Sessions in Bakersfield, for this Cryptic year. I hope to live up to the confidence you have placed in me. I am very proud of the officers of your Grand Council, both elected and appointed. They are all aware of the gravity of the work they have taken on, and will put themselves to the task of improving Cryptic Masonry in California.

Ritual: One of the most important tasks that will be taken on this year is the improvement of the quality and quantity of ritual in the constituent councils. To this end, a dedicated Ritual Staff was installed at Grand Sessions. There will be at least one and maybe two Ritual Staff training conferences this year to help the Assistant Directors of Ritual and Inspectors develop and improve their skills as ritual teachers and mentors.

Executive Committee: Your Executive Committee will also be working on several important projects this year. The Grand Council Mission Statement, which was started at the Grand Officers Strategic Planning Retreat in November of last year, will be finalized and released within the next few months. The committee will also be discussing a number of other improvements to the policies and procedures of the Grand Council administrative and executive functions. There will be more on this in the next few months.

Leadership Seminar: The California York Rite Leadership Seminar program kicked off in Sacramento on May 31st. This training is given by the Leadership Education Committee, which is a joint committee of all three California York Rite bodies. There is no charge to York Rite Masons for this training, and it comes complete with a free lunch. Good information, good food, and good fellowship all in one free package. You can't beat that. The training will be given at key locations throughout the Jurisdiction. Check for a location near you on the attached flyer.

I want to again thank you all for the opportunity to serve Cryptic Masonry in California, not just in this cryptic year, but in all the past years and, with your blessing, in the years to come.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

David Chesebro, Grand Master

Effective Communications

Thank You: I thank all of the companions who elected me to serve you this next year as Deputy Grand Master. I look forward to this year and am sure it will pass all too quickly. I enjoyed our Grand Sessions in Bakersfield very much. There was a lot to do and it was nice to see that all of our Councils were represented again this year. A highlight was recognizing those who received awards. It is always nice to acknowledge those who have gone that extra mile and contributed greatly to their Council.

Improvement: This year we will continue to work on the areas we identified as needing improvement at our officers meeting last year at the Masonic Home in Covina. I am working on a single sheet (2 sided) handout for our York Rite bodies. It will have a brief description of our degrees and charities as well as space for you to add your contact information.

Effective Communication: Effective communication is a proven way to increase our member's knowledge and participation. Grand York Rite has a Facebook page that is attracting a lot of viewers. A member of my Council has recently created a Facebook and our members are visiting and keeping up with current news and meeting information.

Brett A. MacDonald
Grand Deputy Grand Master

Quincy Bocce Ball Tournament

Who will win the Quincy Bocce Ball Tournament??? As part of the 3-Way reception being held in Quincy, CA on June 22, there will be a Bocce Ball tournament from about 1:30 to 3:30, followed by a hamburger/hot dog bar-b-que. There will be 4 teams. 1 team each from the three Grand Bodies and one team from the Plumas and Lassen Counties York Rite Masons. If you want to attend, call Dick Jolley at 530 283-1492 and let him know you are coming.

GRAND BIBLE BEARER
Richard J. "Dick" Jolley

Illustrious Grand Master Itinerary

- ① June 8, 9, 10 Nevada Grand Sessions
- ① Thursday, June 12, Shekinah
- ① Friday, June 13 – San Bernardino
- ① Saturday, June 14 – Ventura
- ① Sunday, June 15 – Executive Conference Call
- ① Friday, June 20 – Redding
- ① Saturday, June 21 – Chico
- ① Sunday, June 22 – Quincy
- ① Wednesday, June 25 – San Jose
- ① Thursday, June 26 – Visalia
- ① Saturday, June 28 – Bellflower
- ① Sunday, June 29 – Pleasanton
- ① Friday, July 4 – Newhall
- ① Saturday, July 5 – Van Nuys

For the latest schedule details:

<http://www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org/council/calendar.html>

Super Excellent Master Degree

Oakland Council No. 12 is hosting the **Super Excellent Master Degree** on Monday November 10, 2014 at Oakland Scottish Rite. Dinner will begin at 6:00pm with the Degree beginning at 7:00pm. Mark your calendars, sign up info to follow.

Fraternally and Sincerely
K. Mark Harris, Grand Soloist

Encompasser

Do you read & know about the Encompasser a quarterly publication of the Grand York Rite of California. It had been available by subscription which covered mailing, but is now available on line. Go to York Rite of California: <http://www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org/> and on the left of the home page, click ENCOMPASSER. Then click the big green ENCOMPASSER PUBLICATIONS. You now can read present and past issues.

Check out the new format available – you can now read the Encompasser online! No need to even print it out. Many thanks to our web-master, Excellent Companion Richard Thornton, for his efforts in applying this technology to our needs!

Contact Information

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A line of Jackets for our York Rite bodies continues to be available: MP.ENTERPRISES. The price for red and blue is great -- \$75.00 plus tax and shipping, for sizes 34 to 49 in short, regular and tall; and \$87.00 plus tax and shipping for sizes 50 to 60, also in short, regular, and tall. Purple Jackets are little more expensive at \$95.00 for the smaller and \$107.00 for the larger. 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.

Have you gone to our Grand Council website lately? www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org/ Do you know that there you can find rosters of officers, forms that you need, and a complete copy of the **Officers Guide. *The Officers guide helps you plan and know what is expected you.***

Officers: Grand Council Cryptic Masons

We, the officers of Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, are here to assist you, Please call upon us.

154th MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER

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Indiana University
School of Medicine

**Indiana Center for Vascular Biology
and Medicine Newsletter**
Spring 2014
Vessels and Vitality



Cryptic Masons Medical
Research Foundation

The Indiana Center for Vascular Biology and Medicine, (ICVBM), welcomes Dr. Maria Grant as a new member of our team dedicated to bringing patients new therapies for critical medical needs. Dr. Grant was recruited last Fall from the University of Florida, and joined the ICVBM along with the Department of Ophthalmology and the Vascular and Cardiac Center for Adult Stem Cell Therapy. Many of her research interests focus on understanding how adult bone marrow stem cells influence blood vessel growth in health as well as in diseases such as diabetes and age-related macular degeneration.



Maria's lab is working on some particularly unique approaches to study the topic of vascular repair. Four of the areas that distinguish Maria and her laboratory are:

1.) Investigations of Acupuncture and its effect on Circulating Stem Cells

Dr. Grant has found in a novel study that acupuncture of specific points results in the release of one's own stem cells into the blood circulation. This may be a reason that acupuncture works, and opens up a potentially important new area of research for exploration at the ICVBM.

2.) Horses

Maria has a long-standing love for horses, and indeed has her own herd of six horses. She has been studying the stem cells in the fat and bone marrow of horses, which will have implications for treating arthritis and degenerative joint disease in human patients, as well as for veterinary treatments for both pets and athletic animals.

3.) Nerves and Bone Marrow Stem Cells

The Grant lab is studying how the nervous system influences changes in bone marrow cell release into the circulation; the way that this release varies from daytime to evening, and during sleep; and how this is altered in diabetes. Dr. Grant found that diabetic individuals are unable to release reparative cells; this may contribute to poor blood vessel health in many diabetics.

4.) Treatment of Diabetes and Eye Disease

Maria has also found that the activity of repair cells in diabetic individuals is significantly worse than in healthy individuals. Her team has developed novel strategies to improve diabetic cells prior to their use in cell-based therapy to treat vascular complications, including in diabetic retinopathy.

Each of the four areas of interest for Dr. Grant interact closely with multiple other team members of the ICVBM, funded, in part, by Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation. These new topics add to the exciting "tapestry" of ICVBM investigations.



California Grand York Rite

Leadership Seminar

This seminar is designed specifically for the York Rite Officers and Members to help prepare them to be good leaders, or more knowledgeable members, in their respective Chapters, Councils, and Commanderies and all York Rite Masons are encouraged to attend.

The following is an overview of what will be covered:

- Grand Chapter, Council, & Commandery vs General Grand Chapter/Council & Grand Encampment – How Grand Bodies work
- Administration of Constituent Bodies
- Communications
- Protocol and Special Events
- Ritual, Tactics, & Uniforms
- Mentoring vs Coaching
- Leadership

Note: This is not a ritual seminar/school of instruction

Five seminars have been scheduled as outlined below. If you cannot attend the one nearest you, please attend one of the others. Please RSVP so we can plan lunch and materials accordingly.

All seminars are scheduled on a Saturday from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM and lunch will be provided. There is no charge to the attendees. Dress is casual.

<i>DATE:</i>	<i>LOCATION:</i>
May 31, 2014	Sacramento Masonic Center 1123 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2809 <i>(there's a charge for parking)</i>
June 28, 2014	Bellflower Masonic Center 9813 Beach Street, Bellflower, CA 90706-5917
August 23, 2014	Vesper Masonic Center 822 Main St, Red Bluff, CA 96080-2759
September 13, 2014	San Jose Masonic Center 2500 Masonic Drive, San Jose, CA 95125-2019
January 31, 2015	Vista Masonic Center 761 Eucalyptus Ave, Vista, CA 92084-6251

RSVP to Bud Ramsey, 5160 Poston Drive, San Jose, CA 95136-3320

Phone: 408-838-3730

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