



# THE WORKMAN



Phil Hardiman, Grand High Priest

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California

AUGUST 2009

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## MARK MASTER AT GRAND LODGE

Planning for the Mark Master Degree conferral on Friday night, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, at Grand Lodge is proceeding apace. Fred Kleyn has completed the cast. Nancy is planning a social event for the ladies while the Degree is being conferred. Location and times will be posted and announced at Grand Lodge.

**I will repeat my exhortation of last month: Now is the time for each High Priest, and his dais officers, to help make this event an historic success.** You can each do this by visiting Blue Lodges during the summer, collecting petitions for this class, and arranging to ballot upon the petitioners in your local Chapter before the Annual Communication on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Your Secretary will then simply apprise us of the names of your petitioners, and we will take it from there. You do not need a dispensation to hold a Special Convocation to ballot on petitions, but you should provide timely, written notice to your membership. See Section 105 of the Constitution, for clarification. So plan ahead and, if need be, begin now to make arrangements to have a Special Convocation for balloting upon petitioners to the Grand Lodge Class. Information and forms have been sent to Chapter High Priests to facilitate communications with the host Chapter.

**Again,** your focus on conferring the Mark Master Degree this year will have a tremendous effect, in the aggregate – not only to build our membership base and improve our revenue stream, but also to satisfy our obligatory requirement to provide Masonic light and knowledge to our less informed brethren. The next three months are crucial – I urge you to set an example for your companions by getting the word out to our Blue Lodges. Send this Newsletter to your membership and, by doing so, encourage them to do the same! Thanks for your contributions.

See the article below from the latest Sebastopol Newsletter, to see how creatively and successfully they are taking advantage of this new Mark Master program.

## SEBASTOPOL TB ENTRY

By Doug DeForest  
High Priest

ON SATURDAY EVENING, JUNE 20 WE HOSTED A VERY SUCCESSFUL DISTRICT GRAND HIGH PRIEST RECEPTION. THERE WERE QUITE A FEW DIGNITARIES INTRODUCED FROM THE GRAND CHAPTER AND ALL OF THE DISTRICT CHAPTERS. THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO SHERLYN MOLNAR WHO PREPARED A WONDERFUL AND TASTY APPETIZER SPREAD. IT WAS DELIGHTFUL. THANK YOU TO OUR MASTER CHEFS, HARLAN MOHN, ROY BOLTZ, AND JACK LEFEVRE. **OUR NEWEST MARK MASTER WHO HAD JUST BEEN INITIATED THE PRECEDING THURSDAY PITCHED IN AND HELPED WHEREVER HE COULD.** A WONDERFUL DINNER WAS SERVED. THEY ARE WELCOME TO COOK FOR US ANYTIME!!! THANK YOU TO EXCELLENT COMPANION BILLY BOB BOLTZ AND CROWN AWARDS FOR PREPARING THE BEAUTIFUL GIFTS WHICH WERE PRESENTED TO THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

WHEN WE WERE DISCUSSING A SPECIAL EVENT FOR THE SUMMER, EXCELLENT COMPANION ROY BOLTZ VOLUNTEERED TO COOK A BARBECUE DINNER. HIS OFFER WAS ENTHUSIASTICALLY ACCEPTED IMMEDIATELY. THIS WILL TAKE PLACE ON OUR USUAL MEETING DATE, THURSDAY, AUGUST 13. (ONLY THERE WILL BE NO MEETING!) WE WILL ASSEMBLE FROM 4:30 ON WITH SNACKS AND DRINKS AVAILABLE AND THEN HAVE DINNER ABOUT 6:00. THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR DINNER! ALL COMPANIONS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND WITH THEIR LADIES **AND ESPECIALLY IF YOU KNOW OF ANY POTENTIAL MEMBERS BRING THEM ALONG. REMEMBER THE NEW PROGRAM WHERE ANY MASTER MASON CAN TAKE THE MARK MASTER DEGREE WITHOUT**

**HAVING TO PAY ANY FEES. PUT YOUR THINKING CAPS ON AND SEE IF YOU CAN FIND A BROTHER WHO WOULD BE AN ASSET TO OUR ORGANIZATION.** PLEASE CALL IN OR E-MAIL YOUR RESERVATIONS TO ROY BOLTZ AT 542-5859, E-MAIL = [XROYBO@ATT.NET](mailto:XROYBO@ATT.NET), NO LATER THAN TUESDAY AUGUST 11. (Emphasis added)

**ORATE FRATRES**

By William B. Jefferies  
Grand Orator

At the recent Convocation of the Grand Chapter of California, R.A.M., I was honored to be selected and installed as the Grand Orator. The Charge delivered to me by the Installing Officer was to deliver at the annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter in 2010 an address relating to the Craft of an informational or inspirational nature. Our Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Phil Hardiman, has asked me to expand this responsibility by writing a brief article of a similar sort for each of the quarterly issues of the California Encompasser to be published during his administration. I accept this opportunity with enthusiasm and shall try to discharge it to the best of my ability.

Several decades ago, a journal dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the Latin Mass of the Roman Catholic Church was published under the title, Orate Fratres. Its publication life was relatively short, no doubt owing to the rather esoteric nature of its content. At the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, I had a friend, a Catholic priest, whose father was employed in the publishing business in Nashville, Tennessee. He told me that the Irish immigrant pressman who worked on the magazine insisted on calling it, “Or-ate freights.” Actually, of course, the two Latin words are pronounced, “Oh-rah-tey Frah-treys;” and they refer to the beginning phrase of a periscope in the liturgy in which the celebrant of the Mass petitions for the spiritual support of those attending. (The Latin verb, orare, means “to pray,” not “to ‘speechify’,” and the phrase should be translated, “Pray, Brethren.”)

It seems to me that responsible oratory should mandate an obligation to be sincere similar to that required by true prayer. Those persons engaged in public speaking – be they preachers, or politicians, or fraternal leaders – must recall and observe that old adage: “Actions speak louder than words.” Early in the twentieth century, the American poet and our Masonic Brother, Edgar A. Guest, put it best in a poem entitled “Sermons We See” –

. . . the lecture you deliver

May be very wise and true,  
But I'd rather get my lessons  
By observing what you do.  
.....  
Though an able speaker charms me  
With his eloquence, I say  
I'd rather see a sermon  
Than hear one, any day.”

**PERSONAL NOTES**

One of the most gratifying duties this year has been presenting checks to two of our Scholarship recipients: Elise Antrobus at Mt. Diablo Assembly 84 in Antioch in June; and Nicole Valadao at Unity Assembly 65 in Castro Valley in July. Here are pictures from these events. Many thanks are due also to the Grand Officers and local Chapter High Priests and Past High Priests who accompanied me to these marvelous presentations.

**Mt. Diablo Assembly:** Elise, with her Worthy Advisor, and Rich Wilson, Joe Weis, Bob Whitfield, yours truly, Chuck Endicott, and Tony Yuson – three of whom are High Priests this year.



**Unity Assembly:** Nicole with Jon Humphreys, Dave Shull, yours truly, Max Luy, and Gerald Woergoetter.



## BANQUET NIGHT

Here is another poem by Brother Rudyard Kipling, who was both a Mark Master Mason and a Royal Ark Mariner Mason. He received the Mark Master Degree in Fidelity Mark Lodge No. 98 in Lahore on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 1887, and later that night the degree of Royal Ark Mariner in Mount Ararat Mariners Lodge No. 98.

"Once in so often," King Solomon said,  
Watching his quarrymen drill the stone,  
"We will curb our garlic and wine and bread  
And banquet together beneath my Throne,  
And all Brethren shall come to that mess  
As Fellow-Craftsmen — no more and no less."

"Send a swift shallop to Hiram of Tyre,  
Felling and floating our beautiful trees,  
Say that the Brethren and I desire  
Talk with our Brethren who use the seas.  
And we shall be happy to meet them at mess  
As Fellow-Craftsmen — no more and no less."

"Carry this message to Hiram Abif —  
Excellent master of forge and mine —  
I and the Brethren would like it if  
He and the Brethren will come to dine  
(Garments from Bozrah or morning-dress)  
As Fellow-Craftsmen — no more and no less."

"God gave the Cedar their place —  
Also the Bramble, the Fig and the Thorn —  
But that is no reason to black a man's face  
Because he is not what he hasn't been born.  
And, as touching the Temple, I hold and profess  
We are Fellow-Craftsmen — no more and no less."

So it was ordered and so it was done,  
And the hewers of wood and the Masons of Mark,  
With foc'sle hands of Sidon run  
And Navy Lords from the ROYAL ARK,  
Came and sat down and were merry at mess  
As Fellow-Craftsmen — no more and no less.

The Quarries are hotter than Hiram's forge,  
No one is safe from the dog-whip's reach.  
It's mostly snowing up Lebanon gorge,  
And it's always blowing off Joppa beach;

But once in so often, the messenger brings  
Solomon's mandate: "Forget these things!  
Brother to Beggars and Fellow to Kings,  
Companion of Princes — forget these things!  
Fellow-Craftsmen, forget these things!"

## THE CLOTHES LINE

We now have access to a new line of Jackets for our York Rite bodies. I have seen the red and blue, and have purchased a new red one. I believe purple will also be available. The price is great -- \$75.00 plus tax and shipping, for sizes 34 to 49 in short, regular and tall; and \$86.25 plus tax and shipping for sizes 50 to 60, also in short, regular, and tall. Contact Patsy Baker Luy at her office: 1(510)527-5728, or cell: 1(510)502-3224.

## THE CALIFORNIA YORK RITE CRUISE

Fifteen have signed up for the Cruise already! Though this is not a large number, at this point in time it represents a good response. I know many others are thinking about and intending to go, but are putting off arrangements to the last minute – **DON'T WE ALL DO THAT???** Well, knock it off!! If you're going to sail with your York Rite friends and family -- **CALL NOW!**

This 4 Day Baja Mexico fund-raiser cruise benefits the Royal Arch Philanthropies, the Cryptic Council CMMRF, and the Knight Templar Eye Foundation. Fifty dollars will be donated to them for each cabin that sails! Friends and family are also invited. The cruise sails December 7 – 11, 2009, and includes a one hour open bar, Hospitality Suite access, and a Mark Master Degree conferral. A \$100 deposit reserves you a slot, with cabins ranging in price from \$250 to \$740, per person double occupancy. Final payment is due October 7<sup>th</sup>. For more info, call Mark at 415-922-2916, or register online at [www.songmastertravel.com](http://www.songmastertravel.com).

**DO IT NOW !!!!!**

## GOLDEN GATE RESEARCH CHAPTER

The next convocation will be August 22nd in Sacramento -- 1123 J Street, at 10:00 am. After opening, a little business will be conducted, and then at least one paper will be presented, dealing with the Symbolism of the Royal Arch Degree, by Most Excellent Edgar Fentum, High Priest of the Research Chapter. Other papers may be presented from the floor, after which we will close and adjourn to a Festive Board. While we are meeting, the Ladies will have Tea with Nancy. With her assistance and that of my son Jeff, a Mark Master Mason, I will provide a sumptuous "meat and potatoes" luncheon, but I must have RSVPs by August 20th, midnight. No call (916-488-3708), no eat -- it's that simple!! Come prepared to deliver a Toast. If you are moved so to do, please come prepared with some brief but substantive narrative -- not just a "To the Queen," or "To our Ladies," or some such. These are, indeed, fine toasts for particular occasions. Perhaps more

to the point at this luncheon would be the following: "To the GHP for his glorious and truly memorable TIE, for its colorful and meaningful presentation, allowing us to enjoy the sensual as we learn ever deeper truths about ourselves, our ritual, our craft, and our companionship." In other words, get creative! This meeting will cost you nothing, unless you choose to join the Research Chapter, except the cost of gas to get there.

Please RSVP to me at [philipandnancy@aol.com](mailto:philipandnancy@aol.com) or call at 916-488-3708(H), if you will be able to attend. I will be traveling soon to NV, AZ and LA, so leave a message.

Also, please visit the excellent website at: <http://www.goldenstatechapter.org/>

For information about membership, contact M.:E.: Comp.: Edgar W. Fentum, High Priest  
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### COLORADO RIVER FALL FESTIVAL

The multi-State York Rite Festival will be celebrated this year on October 18, 19 and 20. Hotel reservations at the Riverside must be made through the CRFF by October 1<sup>st</sup> – it is not too soon to act now, especially if you intend to bring candidates. Cost for the room for 3 nights is \$106, total. Requests for Courtesy Work must also be received by October 1<sup>st</sup>. All information is now posted at [www.crff.org](http://www.crff.org).

### GRAND CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIPS

Although the final filing date has passed for this year, keep in mind for next year the eligibility of Masonic youth. Final filing may be as early as mid-January, 2010. Remember, also, that all donations to the Scholarship Program are Tax Deductible, so keep this in mind as you plan your annual giving and when you pay your dues

### ENCOMPASSER

For access to the latest edition, June 2009, go to the basic website: <http://www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org> and click on The Encompasser on the left hand toolbar.

### PETITIONS

New petitions and brochures about the Chapter are available on the website at:

<http://www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org/royalarch/royalarch.htm>  
Simply scroll down to the lower half of the page.

### GRAND HIGH PRIEST ITINERARY

Arizona	Grand Sessions	Aug 12 thru Aug 16	Phoenix, AZ
Azusa	Chapter Visit	17-Aug	Azusa
Downey	Royal Arch Degree	19-Aug	Downey(157)
San Diego	Reception Exec Committee Meeting	27-Aug Aug 29 thru Aug 30	San Diego(61)
Bakersfield			
San Jose	Reception Visit,	2-Sep	Howard(14)
Oakland	Brigadoon	13-Sep	Oakland(36)
Visalia	Chapter Visit	8-Sep	Visalia(44)
Tulare	Chapter Visit	9-Sep	Tulare(71)
Salinas Santa Monica Bay	Reception - 3	20-Sep	Salinas(59)
	Reception - 3	26-Sep	Santa Monica Bay(97)
Auburn	Reception - ?	28-Sep	Delta(27)
San Francisco	Grand Lodge	Oct 2 thru Oct 4 Oct 30 thru Oct 31	
Phoenix	SW Regional S/R		Phoenix, AZ
Pasadena	Reception - ?	6-Nov	?????
San Diego	Cruise	Dec 7 thru Dec 11	ALL
San Luis Obispo	Installation	9-Jan	San Luis (62)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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