



# THE WORKMAN



Phil Hardiman, Grand High Priest

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California

OCTOBER 2009

Vol. I, No. 5

## CONTENTS

MARK MASTER AT GRAND LODGE	1
ORATE FRATRES	2
PERSONAL NOTES	2
MY NEW-CUT ASHLAR by KIPLING	3
THE CLOTHES LINE	3
THE CALIFORNIA YORK RITE CRUISE	3
GOLDEN STATE RESEARCH CHAPTER	3
GRAND CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIPS	3
ENCOMPASSER	3
PETITIONS	3
GHP ITINERARY	4
CONTACT INFORMATION	4

## MARK MASTER AT GRAND LODGE

Well, all the efforts of the Chapters around the State paid off in spectacular fashion! We had 103 signups for the Mark Master conferral, with 67 submitted by the local Chapters, and 36 collected on the floor of the Exhibit Hall. Only 81 actually appeared for the Degree, but 24 have already taken the remaining Chapter Degrees at the annual Fall Pilgrimage in Alameda! We will follow-up with the 22 no-shows so they are aware of future Degree opportunities. Incoming High Priests should begin now to plan the new year with interesting and informative programs to draw these new members into active Chapter membership. Some of them will be interested to serve as officers – start them off as Veils, if you can, and give some of the old-timers a rest!

I heard our Grand Lodge Grand Secretary speak a month ago to an Officers' School of Instruction about membership. He made the point that the newer, younger members are in search of information, so you should make an effort to regularly provide them with current as well as historical information about, and interpretations of, the capitular experience. Be sure to make the essential point to them that our most important ritual is found in the opening and closing of our Chapters. So, if all you do at a Stated Convocation is open, read the minutes, pay the bills, close and go home – you have still benefitted your membership by a remembrance of the content of our ritual and our symbols. Hence, how important it is to do quality

ritual – so, in addition to developing and putting on interesting programs during the year, hold occasional practices for opening and closing. As far as the programs are concerned, invite somebody to speak for 5 minutes (or longer) on a topic of interest, perhaps during or after dinner, or even during your Convocation.

Many thanks are due to the Companions who participated at Grand Lodge – in the cast, as Sentinels, and as Class Guides. The Cast, working under the superb direction of Sid Cerates, Past Grand Lecturer as Degree Coordinator, was as follows:

**Randy Downey**  
**Bud Ramsey**

**Right Worshipful Master**  
**Senior Warden**

**Fred Smith**  
**Bill Allen**  
**Bob Morrison**  
**Dennis Dyer**  
**Ken Nagel**  
**Tom Handell**  
**Bruce Pruitt**  
**Greg Voetsch, Jr.**  
**Tyler Layne**  
**Fenton Mereness**  
**Bob Whitfield**  
**Mark Harris**  
**Hap Evans**  
**Ted Hammack**

**Junior Warden**  
**Chaplain**  
**Treasurer**  
**Secretary**  
**Senior Deacon**  
**Junior Deacon**  
**Marshall**  
**Master Overseer**  
**Senior Overseer**  
**Junior Overseer**  
**Charge**  
**Preview Lecture**  
**Sentinel**  
**Prompter**

The Sentinels:

The Guides

**Tip Kendel**  
**Geoff Risse**  
**Rich Wilson**  
**Guy Chalmers**  
**Ray Broomfield**  
**Steve Goad**  
**Miles Thompson**  
**Bob Hansen**  
**Dave Shull**

**Jerry Miller**  
**Rick Baca**  
**Tony Cimarra**  
**Melvin Clark**  
**Max Luy**  
**Van Owen**  
**Loren Piper**  
**Sidney Pond**  
**Bill Price**  
**Cleveland Valery**  
**Gerald Woergotter**

After the conferral, Most Excellent Companion Edgar Fentum, PGHP, gave remarks to the class, indicating that there are over 50,000 Mark Master Masons in the Mark Master Grand Lodge of England alone. Edgar is the Grand Representative of California to the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England; and the Provincial Grand Officer of Hampshire and Isle of Wight.

After the presentation of a plaque commemorating the event to Most Worshipful Larry L. Adamson, the Grand High Priest Chapter UD was closed and we adjourned to the California Room for refreshments. My wife, Nancy, did an excellent job arranging for the refreshments with help from Marianne Hammack, Sylvia Humphreys, Delores Dyer, Judy Williamson, Kitty Wilson, Pauline Morrison, Wendy Tisdell, Patsy Baker-Luy, and Claire Kindel. Grand Lodge Staff Kim Hegg and Jim Banta were a big help, and Dick Gentschel, who took the Mark Master Degree at Half Moon Bay a week before, ran the sound system for us.

A final word of thanks is due to Most Excellent Companion Al Miller, who made a supreme effort on our behalf despite his current ailments. Al was Grand High Priest in 1986, and he served as the Installing Officer to institute the new Grand High Priest Chapter UD, which served as the host Chapter for balloting and the conferral. Take care, Al.

### ORATE FRATRES

By William B. Jefferies  
Grand Orator

From the pen of William Cowper, an emotionally fragile but very talented hymn writer of the eighteenth century, comes this advice for those burdened with a sense of foreboding.

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take;  
The clouds y so much dread  
Are big with mercy, and shall break  
In blessing on your head.

Corrie ten Boom, that gallant Dutch Christian who during the German occupation of her homeland, did so much to help the Jews of Holland to escape from Nazi tyranny, tells this tale about how she learned to deal with the threat of impending events. Miss ten Boom was very close to her father, a simple devout watchmaker. As a little girl, she dreaded the time when he should die. Dependant as she felt herself to be on his wisdom, faith, and emotional support, she confided her fear to him.

Her father pointed out that when life's tragedies occur, God sends the means to bear them, but not before. And he

illustrated his words in this manner: "Suppose," he said to his fearful daughter, "you were summoned to go from Amsterdam up to Leeuwarden sometime next week. Would I give you the money for the train now – or would I wait until the day of your departure, go to the railway station with you, purchase a ticket for you, and see you on your way?"

Miss ten Boom, knowing the loving and providential nature of her father, replied that he would do the latter. And Meinheer ten Boom pointed out, that is the way our heavenly Father operates. In times of loss or trials, God will provide for His trustful followers the necessary strength to do what must be done and to bear what must be borne.

### PERSONAL NOTES

It was a real pleasure to present the Meritorious Service Award to Hal Barker, Grand Warder, at a York Rite Reception in Auburn last month. That's Hal in the center with the High Priest of St. James No. 11, Wes Minderman, on the left and yours truly on the right.



In October, Nancy and I drove to Kernville for a reception and Meritorious Service Award presentation to Ed Winship. Here's Ed with his family after the presentation.



## **MY NEW-CUT ASHLAR**

Here is another poem (also titled as *L'Envoi to "Life's Handicap"*) 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.

My new-cut ashlar takes the light  
Where crimson-blank the windows flare.  
By my own work before the night,  
Great Overseer, I make my prayer.

If there be good in that I wrought  
Thy Hand compelled it, Master, Thine —  
Where I have failed to meet Thy Thought  
I know, through Thee, the blame was mine.

The depth and dream of my desire,  
The bitter paths wherein I stray —  
Thou knowest Who hast made the Fire,  
Thou knowest Who hast made the Clay.

Who, lest all thought of Eden fade,  
Bring'st Eden to the craftsman's brain —  
Godlike to muse o'er his own Trade  
And manlike stand with God again!

One stone the more swings into place  
In that dread Temple of Thy worth.  
It is enough that, through Thy Grace,  
I saw nought common on Thy Earth.

Take not that vision from my ken —  
Oh whatsoever may spoil or speed.  
Help me to need no aid from men  
That I may help such men as need!

## **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**

Over 30 have signed up for the Cruise already! And we have three candidates for the Mark Master Degree, which

will be conferred on the open seas. Although you may not be able to get the rates as shown below, you can probably still get on the cruise if you so desire. Call Mark at the number below.

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).

## **GOLDEN GATE RESEARCH CHAPTER**

Until we are able to plan another convocation, please visit the excellent website at:

<http://www.goldenstatechapter.org/>

For information about membership, contact  
M·E·C· Edgar W. Fentum, High Priest  
34400 Mission Blvd.  
Union City, CA 94587-3604  
510-476-4839  
[fentumew@gmail.com](mailto:fentumew@gmail.com)

## **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 will be in March 14, 2010. The new application will be posted soon on our website, and was available at Grand Lodge October 2, 3 and 4. 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**

Phoenix	SW Regional	Oct 30 thru Oct 31	Phoenix, AZ
Pasadena	S/R Reception - ?	6-Nov	?????
San Diego	Cruise	Dec 7 thru Dec 11	ALL
San Luis Obispo	Installation	9-Jan	San Luis (62)
San Francisco	Installation	30-Jan	California(1)

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

### **Grand High Priest:**

Phil Hardiman  
2713 Hoffman Woods Lane  
Carmichael, CA 95608  
(916) 488-3708(H)

(916) 712-4814(C)  
philipandnancy@aol.com

### **Grand Secretary:**

Ken Hope  
801 Elm Avenue  
Long Beach, CA 90813  
(562) 436-8271(W)  
(562) 484-1611(C)  
[ca.yorkrite@verizon.net](mailto:ca.yorkrite@verizon.net)

### **Assistant Grand Secretary:**

Al Lewis  
801 Elm Avenue  
Long Beach, CA 90813  
(562) 436-8271(W)  
[am.lewis@verizon.net](mailto:am.lewis@verizon.net)

### **Website:**

[WWW.YORKRITEOFCALIFORNIA.ORG](http://WWW.YORKRITEOFCALIFORNIA.ORG)