

*Sword & Trowel is a monthly Newsletter published by Grand York Rite, Grand Council Cryptic Masons of California & provides information to all Companions and friends.*



*Discover meaning of "Cryptic Mason" traditions, leadership and values.*

*Let us, your Grand Officers Grand Council Cryptic Masons, help you on your personal Masonic Journey. Your Grand Officers are here to help you as a Friend, Brother, Companion to further your York Rite Experience. Remember, there is no Stranger among us, just a friend whom we have not yet had the pleasure of meeting.*

# SWORD & TROWEL



1860



163 years young

2023



## April 2023







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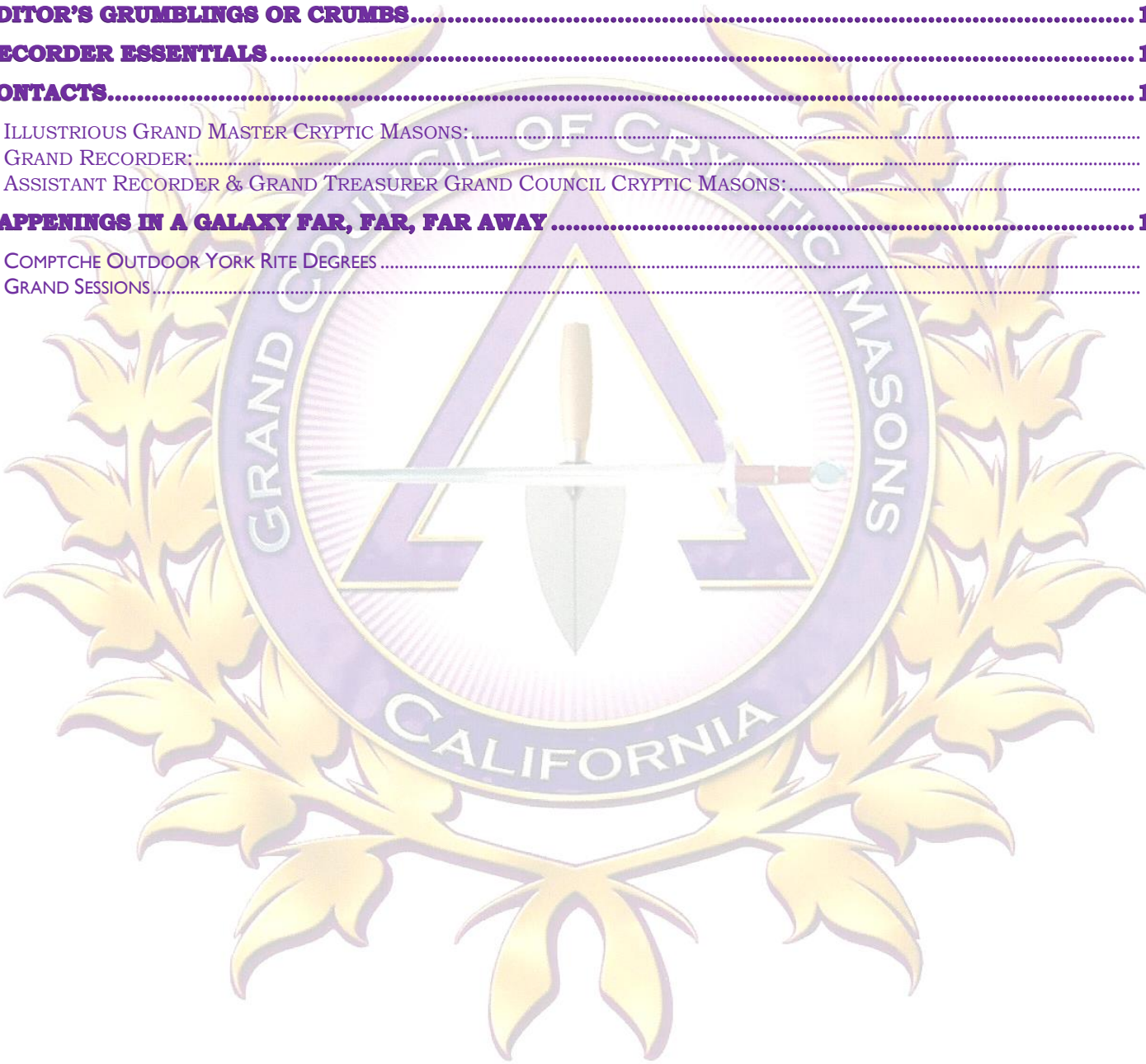
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## *Vision Statement*

**Cryptic Masonry is an organization where men of good character come together to improve themselves, their families, and their communities.**

**It is where the highest Masonic values are learned by its members and applied in all their doings.**

**As Cryptic Masons, we learn a way of life from our ancient teachings, develop meaningful and fulfilling lifelong relationships, and grow as enlightened men. We never hesitate to go out of our way to assist a widow, or a fallen brother.**

**Furthermore, membership in our Cryptic Councils provides us with a place where we, and our families, can find spirituality and likeminded positive thinkers, and where members of our community can depend on us for stability, leadership, and enlightenment.**





# Grand Council Cryptic Masons Officers

We, Grand Officers, Grand Council Cryptic Masons of California, have pledged to serve you, our beloved Companions to achieve excellence and satisfaction of your well-earned labor. We aim for your best and most imaginative efforts as we emerge from this life-changing pandemic to reconstruct our world in a better way



**Most Illustrious Companion**  
**Guy M. Chalmers, KYGCH & Lady Jeanne**  
**Grand Master Grand Council Cryptic Masons of California**  
**Redwood Empire Council No. 46**

**Right Illustrious Companion**  
**Michael T. Sherman, KYCH**  
**Deputy Grand Master**  
**Grand Council Cryptic Masons**  
**Helix Council No. 58**



**Right Illustrious Companion**  
**Jeffrey A. White, & Lady Lisa**  
**Grand Principal Conductor of the Work**  
**Grand Council Cryptic Masons**  
**Pacific Council No. 37**



**Right Illustrious Companion**  
**Thomas Krummell KYCH Lady Marcia**  
**Grand Treasurer**  
**Grand Council Cryptic Masons**  
**Sierra Nevada Council No. 13**



**Right Illustrious Companion**  
**Philip Hardiman, KYGCH, MEPGHP, & Lady Nancy**  
**Grand Recorder**  
**Grand Council Cryptic Masons**  
**Sacramento Council No. 1**



**Right Illustrious Companion**  
**K. Mark Harris, KYCH**  
**Grand Director of Ritual**  
**Grand Council Cryptic Masons**  
**Oakland Council No. 12**



**Right Illustrious Companion**  
**Thomas Krummell, KYCH Lady Marcia**  
**Assistant Grand Recorder**  
**Grand Council Cryptic Masons**  
**Sierra Nevada Council No. 13**



**Right Illustrious Companion**  
**Marion P. Rogers**  
**Grand Chaplin (North)**  
**Grand Council Cryptic Masons**  
**Oakland Council No. 12**



**Right Illustrious Companion**  
**Robert K. Geiger, KYCH**  
**Grand Chaplin (South)**  
**Grand Council Cryptic Masons**  
**Adoniram-Whittier Council No. 83**

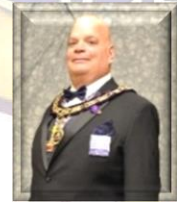
**Right Illustrious Companion**  
**Andrew B. Pippin, KYCH, & Lady Juli**  
**Grand Captain of the Guard**  
**Grand Council Cryptic Masons**  
**Ventura Council No. 15**



**Right Illustrious Companion**  
**Christian G. Marano, KYCH & Lady Mara Cristina**  
**Grand Conductor of the Council**  
**Grand Council Cryptic Masons**  
**San Luis Obispo Council No. 38**



**Right Illustrious Companion**  
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**Grand Steward**  
**Grand Council Cryptic Masons**  
**Redwood Empire Council No. 46**



**Right Illustrious Companion**  
**Steven P. Christensen**  
**Grand Sentinel**  
**Grand Council Cryptic Masons**  
**Redwood Empire council No. 46**



**Right Illustrious Companion**  
**Morris H. Moriuchi**  
**Grand Marshal (North)**  
**Grand Council Cryptic Masons**  
**California Council No. 2**



**Right Illustrious Companion**  
**Matthew J. McColm**  
**Grand Marshal (South)**  
**Grand Council Cryptic Masons**  
**Helix Council No. 58**



**Right Illustrious Companion**  
**Steven R. Goad, KYGCH**  
**Grand Orator**  
**Grand Council Cryptic Masons**  
**Bakersfield Council No. 28**



**Right Illustrious Companion**  
**Peter L. Cunningham**  
**Grand Bible Bearer**  
**Grand Council Cryptic Masons**  
**Visalia Council No. 42**



**Right Illustrious Companion**  
**Joseph L. Wallach**  
**Grand Standard Bearer**  
**Grand Council Cryptic Masons**  
**Sacramento Council No. 1**



**Right Illustrious Companion**  
**Walter A. Ancheta**  
**Grand Musician**  
**Grand Council Cryptic Masons**  
**California Council No. 2**





## Getting Started

### Grand Greetings

It's raining cats and dogs just about all over California, even parts that rarely see this much water. We'd like to say that our three-year drought is over, and the ground water is filling but not quite enough to declare an end to our parched land. These storms are coming too much all at once and most of the fresh water is just running into the ocean. We could use more capture.



These unusual storms force us inside to the security of our homes but some have problems with those homes, either from leaks in their roofs or from flooding around them. We can provide help with a simple phone call to our members to find out how they are managing this extraordinary situation. A phone contact to personally inquire about their health and fitness makes a big impression that says how much we value each member of our Craft and oh, what a difference it makes to each one of us. Reach out to those who we haven't heard from or seen for many months and listen to the reaction you receive. Sometimes you'll get regret for not being contacted before but mostly you'll get thanks for reaching out and caring about them.

But now comes the hard part of doing something to help those in need, maybe by delivering a hot meal or the food to make one, maybe help with some heavy lifting they may need, or even a short visit to catch up on what's been happening around town, the smallest gesture makes a big difference. Most of our Cryptic Councils are small, say 30-50 members, and can be reached easily by a couple of guys making the calls, some will need a committee to call everyone, but it is important that the information gathered from these calls be made known to every member of your Council. You never know how effective your efforts are until all the information is gathered and analyzed. My guess is that you'll be happy that you made the effort.

I will give a complete account of my travels around the State next month in my last message to the Sword and Trowel before turning the reigns over to our next Most Illustrious Grand Master. I can say now that this last year has been a gift for me to represent you, all 2,300 members. A gift to be able to meet so many of the faithful Masons that keep our cryptic knowledge alive and interesting. We in the Cryptic rite have the only conversation directly with Hiram Abiff and learn his knowledge of life and death. Our ritual tells the story of how the sacred word, found in the Royal Arch, was preserved until future ages discovered it. We have an important place in the values of Masonry and deserve to be told. I've recently joined the Scottish Rite to further my search for more Light and I can tell you that the Degrees of the York Rite tell a more complete story of certain parts of the Masonic teaching in details that are covered more generally and completely in the Scottish Rite. This has given me a bigger story than what I would have gotten from just one or the other Rite alone and I feel more enriched by it all. All to say that Masonry can satisfy most in their quest to become better men, if you have eyes to see and ears to hear. I think one could spend years and years of studying Masonry and not get to the end of the stories it could teach us until we die. I suspect this is the object of learning so universal topics. And there's more to reveal in the Bible if one still feels lost. The Light of Masonry and the Sacred Word can help us to live a more complete life if we let it.

Finally, our 2023 Grand York Rite Sessions take place in Visalia on May 13th to 17th. There is a link on our website, [yorkriteofcalifornia.org](http://yorkriteofcalifornia.org). Find the information by clicking on the menu icon, three horizontal bars, and follow the details there. Sunday, the 13th, is the grand banquet, with M.W. Randall Brill, followed by the conferral of the side degree, Order of Zanzibar. Monday, the 14th, is the Knights Templar session, Tuesday, the 15th, is Royal Arch, and Wednesday, the 16th, is the Cryptic Council. The last day, the 17th, is for the York Rite Corporation to pay the bills and plan for the 2024 session. Please make your reservations on the proper forms provided as soon as possible and join us for this gathering of statewide York Rite Masons for friendship and business. There will be hospitality rooms to quench your spare time and make new friends. Visalia is a growing town with many attractions and is close to the center of the State. Come to take part in the business of the Craft and witness the yearly change of Grand Officers. I'll see you there.

Fraternally yours,

Most Illustrious Guy M. Chalmers, KYGCH  
Grand Master Cryptic Masons of California



## All Councils Cryptic Masons

### TAX REPORTING

During a Grand Officer, ADR, DGO, REF, & Inspector's meeting last night, This MASON volunteered to help York Rite Masons

Robert Wellington of Orange County Chapter No. 73 is willing to assist Chapters with guidance to restore their **tax-exempt status**, if needed. If you would rather speak to a brother, Companion and Sir Knight, than an IRS or FTB agent, feel free to contact Bob at 714-396-0846, or [rozekroy@gmail.com](mailto:rozekroy@gmail.com)

### THE CLOTHES LINE

A line of Jackets for our York Rite bodies continues to be available at MP. ENTERPRISES. The price for red and blue is great -- \$115.00 plus shipping, for sizes 34 to 49 in short, regular and tall; and \$125.00 plus shipping for sizes 50 to 59, also in short, regular, and tall; and \$135.00 plus shipping, for sizes 60-69. Also available are Men's and ladies' vests, tuxedos and shirts, pins, patches, and flags, and OES T-Shirts. Contact Max Luy at (510) 502-3224; or at his website: [www.mpenterprises.weebly.com](http://www.mpenterprises.weebly.com); or directly to his email at [maxluy@hotmail.com](mailto:maxluy@hotmail.com).

### ScholarShips

Companions,

Your children, grandchildren, & for some, great-grandchildren may receive financial help for attending school. After opening up Scholarship Center website, have them go to bottom of page & find the Scholarship Manual in (PDF format - 450KB) to download.

There they will find instructions for filling out the forms.

This is the link which will take you to the public Grand Lodge web page on scholarships. All the information you need should be right there. This is a complete manual that you can download that talk about all of the scholarships available from the California Masonic Foundation as well as the

Scottish Rite, York Rite, Eastern Star, High Twelve, DeMolay, Job's Daughters, & Rainbow for Girls.



## *CMMRF Update from the Indiana University School of Medicine*

*Many of the board members with CMMRF, along with a few medical professionals from around the world, traveled to Indianapolis and were greeted by the men and women who transform the funding from CMMRF into cutting edge medical breakthroughs. The physicians and research scientists were eager to show off their accomplishments to us, and displayed the utmost gratitude for providing the funds needed to pursue their research.*

*The morning started out with Dr Hanaa Aridi, who opened our eyes to the numbers of leg amputation and how skin color and socio-economic status play a role in these amputations and in seeking treatments in a timely manner. “Non-white race alone more than doubles the risk of primary amputation in patients with Critical Limb Threatening Ischemia (CLTI) and lowers the rate of utilization of limb salvage techniques by at least 28%” (Anjorin AC et al, J Vasc Surg 2022:75(6):e77-8). For instance, African Americans have a higher rate of peripheral arterial disease and diabetes, they tend to seek help after the disease process has become more advanced, have increased mobility issues, and are less likely to be treated with optimal medical therapy or to undergo limb salvage therapy. In other words, they wait too long to get help, and the help they need may not be available to them.*

*The American Heart Association has a goal to reduce the number of leg amputations by 20% by 2022. This directly impacts our research, as our ‘seed money’ from CMMRF can be used to provide even more funding in this same area that we have been funding for years! This is like striking gold, but in the medical field. This is like investing in Bitcoin before it was popular.*

*After this emotional presentation, we heard from Leni Moldovan, Ph.D, who reiterated the importance of the CODEX and spoke about the breakthrough in finding stem cells regenerating outside of the initial treatment areas, proving that the cells are repopulating in the entire area. A newer CODEX machine is about to be replaced with an upgraded PhenoCycler-Fusion system, also from Akoya Bio, and it should work faster, cheaper, and with greater capabilities. The CODEX can map millions of cells and their interaction with each other. This is like finding a needle in a haystack. The computing power is also amazing, analyzing data upwards of 5-10 TeraBytes. The downside of operating this piece of equipment is the astronomical costs of the ‘consumables’ which can average \$1300 for each antigen introduced into the sample. But the data received from the test, which can show the interaction between the cells, paves the way for new treatments and the reduced time to fully understand the treatment responses.*

*Dr. Mervin Yoder reiterated the important part that stem cells play in the prevention of amputations resulting from Critical Limb Threatening Ischemia. By using cultured stem cells and adding a few genes to direct their growth, they can create the desired stem cell with the desired effect within the body. His work is directed towards repairing the blood vessel’s inner walls. His biggest hurdle is finding the correct cell to study and attempt to replicate. This isn’t a needle in a haystack scenario; this is a needle in the hayfield scenario. As soon as they can manufacture these colony forming cells in the lab, many of these problems with Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms and Peripheral Artery Disease can be corrected, thus preventing invasive surgeries, loss of limbs, and potentially preventable death.*

*Steven Miller, Ph.D. followed up the discussion by reiterating how stem cells can be harvested, whether through bone marrow, umbilical cord blood, more especially the middle of the backbone from healthy young females. With the use of specially bred diabetic mice, called TALLYHO mice, they are essentially destroying the arteries to a leg and injecting stem cells to try to regrow the blood vessels. This is also one of the uses of the Buchi Encapsulator (purchased by CMMRF funding) to surround these stem cells and protect them, while also allowing the cells to perform as intended. These cells were also discovered in parts of the leg that were not injected with stem cells, showing that they are thriving and doing their jobs.*

*Finally, Nicanor Moldovan, Ph.D. discussed the newest prototype of the BioPencil, a device that will be used to precisely deliver stem cells to certain parts of the body, such as the Abdominal Aorta. This device can do so much more, including delivering stem cells to regrow bones in the body as well as outside of the body. The smallest bone in the body, the ear ossicles, can be recreated with bio-printers such as the BioPencil, indicating that hearing loss may be treated through other means than just hearing aids. This same device can be used to aid in the regrowth of select tissues within the eyes, intestines, blood vessels, lungs, etc. The research is being done throughout many VA hospitals ranging from coast to coast, with Indiana University as their primary hub for research and utilizing bio-printing in their practice.*



*This has all been done through the continuing support of CMMRF and Companions throughout the world. The world of medicine is advancing at an incredible rate, and we are standing at the summit of these advancements. If you do not understand any of this, just know that our donations to CMMRF are about to rewrite the medical journals and change the way that our medical conditions are treated.*

*Cell-based therapies to prevent limb loss continue to grow at the Indiana Center for Regenerative Medicine and Engineering*

*IU School of Medicine*

*Michael P. Murphy, MD*

*Michael P. Murphy, MD*

*Critical Limb Threatening Ischemia (CLTI) is the most severe form of peripheral arterial disease caused by atherosclerotic occlusion of blood vessels to the lower extremities. It is often associated with excruciating pain and leads to the development of skin ulcers or gangrene.*

*The standard of care for CLTI is to improve blood flow to the leg with either a surgical bypass or angioplasty with stents to open the atherosclerotic blockages. Unfortunately, about 30 percent of patients with CLTI will not be candidates for a surgical bypass or angioplasty and amputation is the only treatment available to remove a painful or infected leg. In the United States, amputations are the sixth costliest operation to the national health care system, with over 53,000 performed each year. This cost has driven interest in cell-based therapies for wound healing and restoring blood perfusion in critical limb ischemia patients.*

*The Indiana Center for Regenerative Medicine and Engineering (ICRME) has been at the national forefront in developing cutting-edge approaches to treat “no option” for revascularization CLTI patients. Michael P. Murphy, MD, the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation Professor of Vascular Biology Research, has been actively focusing on cell-based approaches for cardiovascular disease for over the past 20 years beginning as a research fellow at Harvard University Medical School.*

*Murphy conducted the first trial in the U.S. using a patient’s own bone marrow cells to prevent amputations. His pioneering work culminated in the MOBILE (MarrOwStim Treatment of LimB IschemIa in Subjects with Severe Peripheral Arterial Disease) trial—a randomized, placebo-controlled trial that assessed the ability of intra-muscular injection of a patient’s bone marrow cells to prevent amputation.*

*The MOBILE study demonstrated that cell therapy was safe, however there was not a significant difference in amputation rates at one-year between the cell treated and placebo groups. The MOBILE trial was uniquely designed to distribute patients with diabetes and a foot ulcer evenly between study groups so that additional analyses could assess these factors on outcomes.*

*Murphy’s group found that diabetes and presence of a foot ulcer had a negative effect on cell therapy and they surmised that any future trials would require a potentially more potent cell population as bone marrow progenitor cells from patients with advanced disease and age are impaired in their regenerative potential.*

*“My moonshot is to develop an effective strategy that incorporates a multi-modal approach to limb preservation in the diabetic patient with vascular disease,” said Murphy.*

*To get to the moon, Murphy has teamed up with Sashwati Roy, PhD, professor of surgery and Director of Clinical Research at the IU Health Comprehensive Wound Center. Roy has been focusing on diabetic wounds and has developed a unique wound dressing, an electroceutical pad, that transmits an electrical current into the soft tissue of the wound that disrupts the biofilm produced by invading bacteria. Once the biofilm is disrupted, antibiotics and other treatments will have a more profound effect in eradicating the bacteria and stimulating the wound to heal.*

*Murphy also has joined forces with Emily Hopewell, PhD, Director of Cell and Gene Therapy Manufacturing at IU School of Medicine, and Erik Woods, PhD of Ossium Health, Inc. Ossium Health has isolated a unique cell, a mesenchymal stromal cell (MSC) from the vertebral bodies of young, healthy organ donors. These vertebral body MSCs (VB-MSCs) have shown a significant effect in promoting muscle and blood vessel regeneration in a diabetic mouse model of CLTI, and Murphy and Hopewell are working on getting FDA approval to use VB-MSCs in the next generation of clinical trials.*

*Murphy and Roy are planning a program grant through the National Institutes of Health that will explore the potential synergy of intra-muscular injection (two doses) and application of Roy’s electroceutical dressing for foot wounds in reducing amputation rates in CLTI in a multi-center clinical trial.*



**Murphy explained that creation of the Indiana Center for Regenerative Medicine and Engineering at IU School of Medicine has helped to advance his research. The Indiana Center for Regenerative Medicine and Engineering under Chandan K. Sen, PhD, the J. Stanley Battersby Chair and Professor of Surgery, Director of the Indiana Center for Regenerative Medicine and Engineering who is a renowned leader in regenerative medicine, has added many benefits to researchers by aiding his expertise in clinical trial design, preclinical animal models, funding mechanisms, and as a collaborator.**

**As an educational institute, Murphy's lab is also creating future scientists and surgeons. Murphy hosts both medical students and residents in the laboratory under the division of vascular surgery within a two-year research fellowship.**

**"My laboratory, as well as some of my colleagues' laboratories, offers a two-year fellowship. During that time, residents and fellows could earn a master's degree, which I highly recommend, in biostatistics, immunology or clinical research," said Murphy.**

**Murphy's work, along with the Indiana Center for Regenerative Medicine and Engineering and IU School of Medicine, have gained prestige as leaders in their prospective fields. Murphy hopes to help Hoosiers who have been told that the only option for their condition is amputation and change their outlook and options.**





## EDITOR'S GRUMBLINGS OR CRUMBS

- Number of Members December 31, 2002 5,401
- Number of Members December 31, 2003 5,154: losses 247
- Number of Members December 31, 2013 3,667: losses 1,487
- Number of Members December 31, 2018 2,872: losses 795
- Number of Members May 27, 2021 2,361: losses 505

Currently for York Rite, along the 99 corridor we have Sacramento, Stockton, and then Bakersfield, and that's it, nothing else; and yet we have major cities, Modesto, Merced, Fresno. As Web Master sometimes would receive calls from Masons wanting to be a Knight Templar. I could only give 3 choices, Bakersfield, Stockton, or Sacramento and the calls most originated from Fresno area.



I was appointed to the Grand Council progressive line in 2010 and subsequently removed. The first thing Bill Wine made me accomplish is a yearly schedule to visit as many councils and receptions, both in the North and South, up until I was Illustrious Grand Master and if I could visit the Councils more than once, that would be excellent.

But to tell the truth, we must get out to the lodges, talk about York Rite. York Rite has History that is unmatched, let's get that out to the Lodges.

**WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING.** Get a Team or Teams together, visit Lodges, visit Councils, do not wait for your year as Grandee and do receptions.

I do not have all the answers but put together some discussion points with various companions and we may arrive.

Made many discussion points over the years in Sword and Trowel, getting councils to accomplish something, anything. For a long time talked about a 3-legged stool, Farmers milking stool. One leg Ritual, a leg for activities, a leg for Community activities.

Then noticed other lodges, other jurisdictions, talking on Facebook; *"Mentioned a few times that if we do not take Masonry out of the Lodge room it will die. I am not saying we should not study the esoteric side of our Craft. I'm not saying we should not have Tiled meetings for Brothers only. We do and should.*

*I am saying we need to take those lessons learned in Lodge and apply them outside of Lodge.*

*We are builders. Do we put "sweat equity" in to our communities? Do we reach out to other groups and help them with their missions?*

*I'm not dogging anyone by any means. But to raise awareness of lodges. Reach out to the local church and ask if they honor St John's day. If so offer to work in the kitchen to help them celebrate. Maybe attend their service. Memorial Day: hold a ceremony to honor the fallen soldiers of your town. Invite everyone to attend and let the local Clergy to give opening and closing prayer. If you have a local American Legion or VFW post, contact them and see if your lodge can assist. Even if just providing coffee and donuts. The possibilities are there we just have to open our eyes, step out in faith, and act upon them. Ask, seek, and knock."*

For years our York Rite did nothing, except read the minutes, pay our bills, and go home, **NOW WE ARE PAYING THE PRICE.** I talk to people about their lodge, York Rite and I receive, our lodge has dinner, we open, read minutes, pay our bills, close, and go home, sound familiar? Once in a while, we do talk about Shriners or Scottish Rite, but York Rite, NO.



## Recorder Essentials

### SECRETARY and/or RECORDER ESSENTIALS

Forms and Documents you will need are located at the Grand York Rite website, which is: [www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org](http://www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org). The new website will require you to have a userid, and to have established a password. Once you LOGIN, you will see a long white line, above which you will see:

ROYAL ARCH FORMS    CRYPTIC COUNCIL FORMS    COMMANDERY FORMS

Then click on the appropriate FORMS. In ROYAL ARCH FORMS, scroll down to Officers Manual, which has information for the Secretary, and print that out. Many concepts in the Grand Chapter manual are relevant to Councils and Commanderies.

Priorities are as follows:

1. **Dues Collection** – You should send out dues notices no later than October, with payments from members due by December 31<sup>st</sup>.
2. **Membership control** – Membership information is now managed in the MMS system – Masonic Membership Solutions. Important changes to your membership include new members, suspensions, demits, and deaths. Maintain e-mail addresses for members and you can easily then forward the monthly newsletter, The WORKMAN, to them.
3. Do not cavalierly suspend members for non-payment of dues. There is a Constitutional process that should be followed rigorously in order that members, who may have moved and not received your dues notice, are treated fairly. See the following sections of the relevant Constitution in order to learn about this process:

Chapter: See Section 201 in the Constitution at

[https://yorkriteofcalifornia.org/files/documents/royal-arch/ROYAL\\_ARCH\\_Constitution\\_2022\\_final.pdf](https://yorkriteofcalifornia.org/files/documents/royal-arch/ROYAL_ARCH_Constitution_2022_final.pdf)

Council: See Section 30-10 in the Constitution at

[https://yorkriteofcalifornia.org/files/cryptic-council/pdf/Grand\\_Council\\_Constitution\\_2022.pdf](https://yorkriteofcalifornia.org/files/cryptic-council/pdf/Grand_Council_Constitution_2022.pdf)

Commandery: See Section 347 in the Constitution at

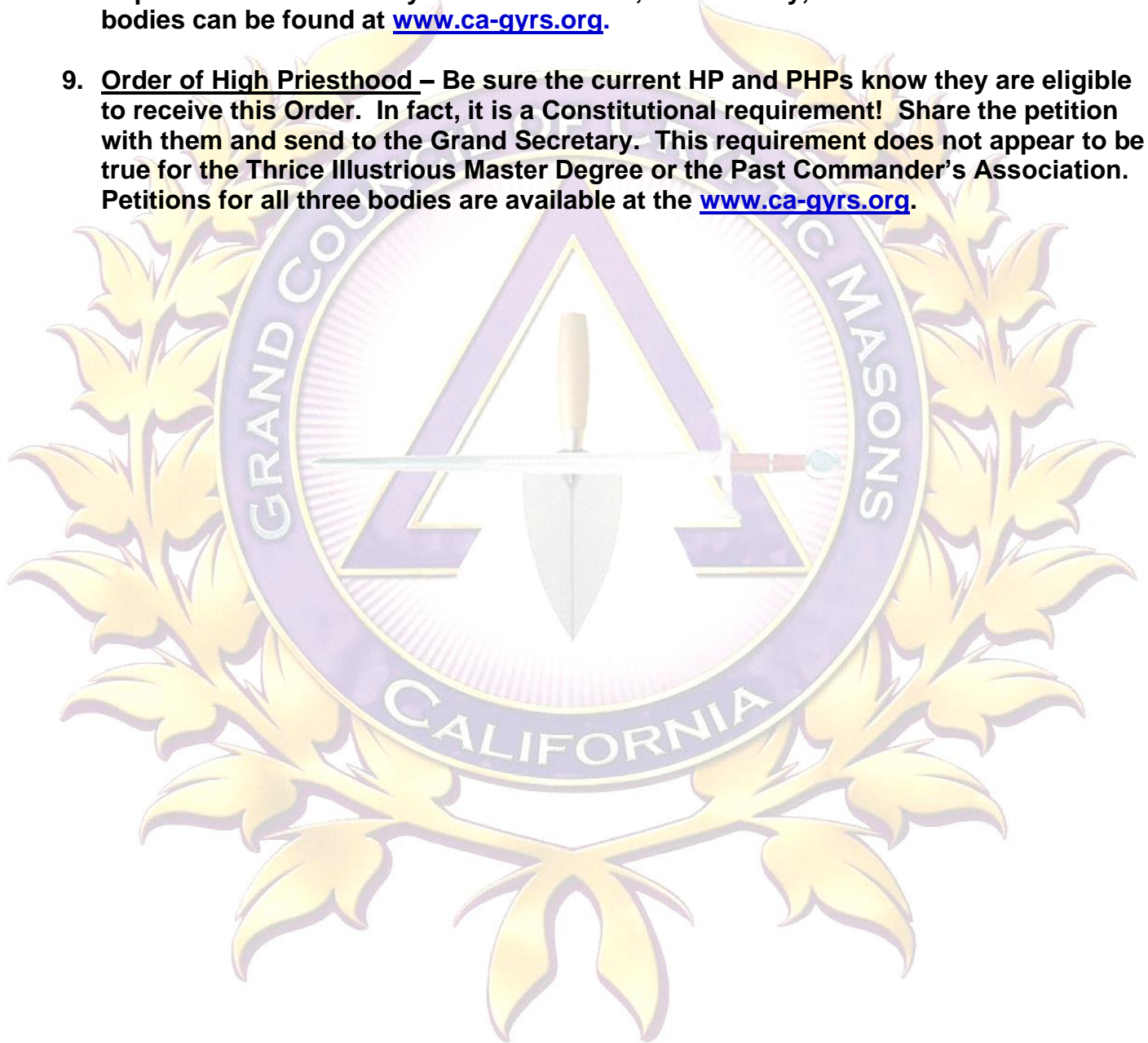
<https://yorkriteofcalifornia.org/files/york-rite-forms-documents/commandery/GRAND%20COMMANDERY%20Constitution%202022.pdf>

4. **Per Capita** -- The Per Capita payment, due each Jan 15<sup>th</sup> for Chapter and Councils (and April 1<sup>st</sup> for Commanderies) does not require action by the Chapter, Council or Commandery to be paid. You will need good, up-to-date end-of-year numbers of active members in MMS. This is the source of your Per Capita bill. Without good data on your membership in MMS you will most likely overpay your per capita requirement. It is sensible to begin your process near the end of the CY, as soon as possible. It is also sensible, if you have access to the Grand Lodge database, to check each member to see if they are still alive. Do so before the end of the year. **But most important is getting a userid to utilize MMS so you can enter deceased and suspended data.**
5. **Insurance** -- The Insurance payment, due each July 15<sup>th</sup>, does not require action by the Chapter, Council or Commandery to be paid. You will be billed for the payment by the Grand Secretary or Grand Recorder.
6. **Lodge Book of Marks** – Maintain this up-to-date, or perhaps arrange for a PHP to take on the responsibility of maintaining.
7. **Minutes** – Take good minutes, but don't over-do it by trying to capture everything that is said. Focus on having a clear representation of motions made and the vote



count by which they passed or failed. In addition to keeping petitions in a separate file, it is good practice to replicate the basic petitioner information in the minutes. It is also a good practice to keep the names of attendees at each meeting in the minutes. If conferring a degree, keep a copy of the cast members and the candidate(s). **Also, please send the candidate class names to the Grand Secretary or Grand Recorder.**

8. **Grand Sessions** – Before the May meeting, remind the Dais officers they are responsible to attend; and arrange a stipend if your Chapter, Council or Commandery can afford it. Remind members who expect to attend to be sure to take their dues cards. If Dais Officers of the Chapter and Council cannot attend, they may issue a proxy, or they may elect a representative. This is true also for Commanderies, whose members, however, cannot issue proxies. The appropriate Chapter forms can be obtained on the Grand York Rite website: Scroll to "Elected Representative and Proxy Credentials." Or, alternatively, the forms for all three bodies can be found at [www.ca-gyrs.org](http://www.ca-gyrs.org).
9. **Order of High Priesthood** – Be sure the current HP and PHPs know they are eligible to receive this Order. In fact, it is a Constitutional requirement! Share the petition with them and send to the Grand Secretary. This requirement does not appear to be true for the Thrice Illustrious Master Degree or the Past Commander's Association. Petitions for all three bodies are available at the [www.ca-gyrs.org](http://www.ca-gyrs.org).





## Contacts

### Illustrious Grand Master Cryptic Masons:

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**Redwood Empire Council No. 46**

### Grand Recorder:

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1123 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### Assistant Recorder & Grand Treasurer Grand Council Cryptic Masons:

**[Thomas Krummell](#), KYCH**  
1123 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814





# Happenings in a Galaxy Far, Far, Far Away

## Comptche Outdoor York Rite Degrees

Editor's Comment: this is the best thing to happen for Council in a long time. If memory serves me correctly, this was first mentioned in a Sword and Trowel publication in 2017.



**The 48th Comptche Outdoor York Rite Degrees Association**



presents the

# Royal Arch and Cryptic Council Degrees

Tunzi Ranch, Comptche, CA

June 24 & 25, 2023



**Fri. 6/23 - Welcome**  
6:30 pm - Fish Fry

**Sat. 6/24 - 6:30 am - Breakfast**  
*Candidates need to sign Chapter Bylaws*  
7:30 am - Open Chapter  
7:45 am - Prologue Deg.  
8 am - Mark Master Deg.  
10 am - Virtual Past Master Deg.  
10:30 am - Most Excellent Master Deg.  
12:30 pm - Lunch  
2:00 pm - Royal Arch  
Deg. 4 - 6 pm - Social  
6:30 pm - BBQ Dinner

**Sun. 6/25 - 7 am - Breakfast**  
*Candidates need to sign Council Bylaws*  
8:15 am - Open Council  
8:30 am - Royal Master Deg.  
10:30 am - Select Master Deg.  
12 Noon - Lunch



Friday - Fish Fry	\$25
Saturday - Breakfast	\$12
Registration	\$15
Lunch	\$18
Barbeque	\$30
Sunday - Breakfast	\$12
Lunch (To-Go home)	\$18
<b>Total (Under 12 -half Price)</b>	<b>\$130</b>

Make checks payable to *Comptche Outdoor Degree Association*

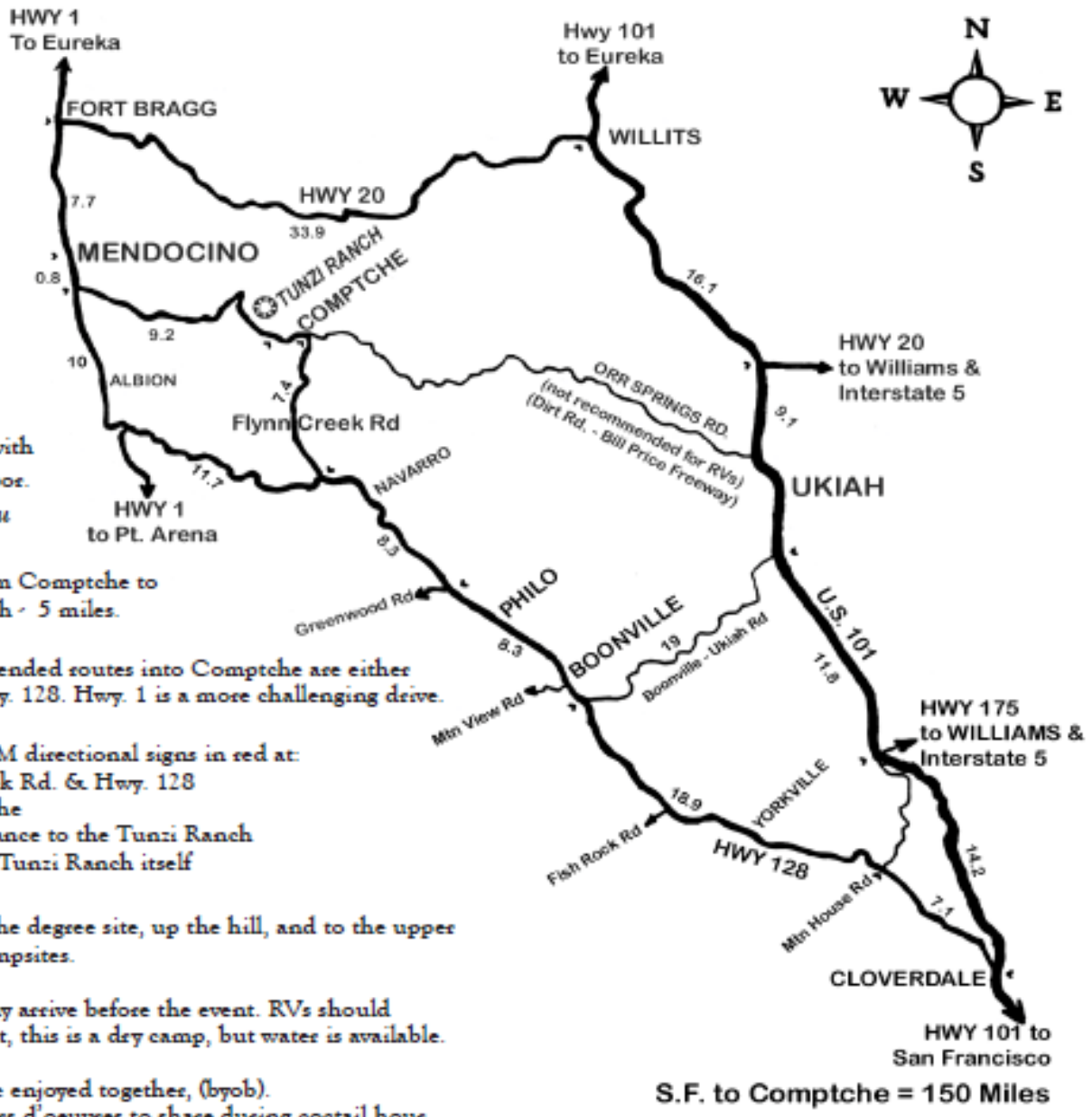
**Reservations Required**, after 6/19 add 20% to your total

Mail to: Guy M. Chalmers, 50 Lohrman Lane, Petaluma, 94952-3609

RV & Campers Welcome!

Lodging accommodations are available along the Mendocino Coast, 10 miles West.





Please help with the heavy labor. Thank You

- Distance from Comptche to the Tunzi Ranch - 5 miles.
- The recommended routes into Comptche are either Hwy. 20 or Hwy. 128. Hwy. 1 is a more challenging drive.
- Look for RAM directional signs in red at:
  - Flynn Creek Rd. & Hwy. 128
  - in Comptche
  - at the entrance to the Tunzi Ranch
  - within the Tunzi Ranch itself
- Proceed to the degree site, up the hill, and to the upper meadow for campsites.
- Campers may arrive before the event. RVs should be self-sufficient, this is a dry camp, but water is available.
- All meals are enjoyed together, (byob). Please bring hors d'oeuvres to share during cocktail hour.

Mail to:

Guy M. Chalmers  
 50 Lohrman Lane  
 Petaluma, CA 94952-3609





# Grand Sessions



## 2023 Grand York Rite Sessions May 14<sup>th</sup> to May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Visalia, CA

Each person attending must fill out a registration form Please print your names and titles as you would like it printed on your badge  
 Do you prefer your confirmation by:  email (default)  none  phone call (latest time to call \_\_\_\_\_)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Lady / Guest: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Lady / Guest Title(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date / Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date / Time: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a member of: Please list the number(s) that you are a member of RAM # \_\_\_\_\_ CM # \_\_\_\_\_ KT # \_\_\_\_\_

\*R.O. is Reservation Only. There is no charge for the event. However, if you plan to attend, please mark it on your reservation form

Day/Date	Time	Please enter the <b>number</b> of Meals/Events you are requesting	Price	Total
Sun - 14 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 AM	GYR CA Corporation Annual Meeting ___	*R.O.*	
	10:30 AM	Allied Masonic Degrees Statewide Meeting ___ Your AMD Council Number _____	*R.O.*	
	11:00 AM	Battalion & Belles Brunch Southwestern Buffet ___	\$31.00	
	1:00 PM	Drill Team Participant ___	*R.O.*	
	4:00 PM	Vespers Service (Memorial Service for all 3 Bodies) ___	*R.O.*	
	6:30 PM	Grand York Rite Banquet Beef & Chicken Duo ___ Pacific Salmon ___ Vegetarian Option ___	\$47.00 \$47.00 \$30.00	
½ hour after the Banquet ends		Order of Zanzibar (open to all) ___	\$25.00	
Mon – 15 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 AM	Grand Commandery Breakfast (Open to all Registrants) Wyndham Buffet ___	\$23.00	
	12:00 PM	KT Ladies Luncheon Lasagna Rolettes ___ Special Dietary ___	\$32.00	
	12:15 PM	Grand Commandery Luncheon Deli Style Buffet ___	\$27.00	
	2:00 PM	Past Commander's Association ___ Must include the PCA Application	\$30.00	
	5:00 PM	Grand Commandery Installation attendee ___	*R.O.*	
Tue – 16 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 AM	Grand Chapter Breakfast: (Open to all Registrants) Wyndham Buffet ___	\$23.00	
	12:00 PM	RAM Ladies Luncheon: Grilled Salmon Caesar Salad ___ Special Dietary ___	\$28.00	
	12:15 PM	Grand Chapter Luncheon Meatloaf ___ Special Dietary ___	\$27.00	
	2:00 PM	Order of High Priesthood Degree ___ Must include the OHP Petition	\$50.00	
	5:00 PM	Grand Chapter Installation attendee ___	*R.O.*	
Wed – 17 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 AM	Grand Council Breakfast: (Open to all Registrants) Wyndham Buffet ___	\$23.00	
	12:00 PM	CM Ladies Luncheon: Ladies Tea ___ Special Dietary ___	\$32.00	
	12:15 PM	Grand Council Luncheon: Barbeque Buffet ___	\$39.00	
	2:00 PM	Thrice Illustrious Master Degree ___ Must include the TIM Petition	\$40.00	
	4:00 PM	Golden State Chapter of Research ___	*R.O.*	
	5:00 PM	Grand Council Installation attendee ___	*R.O.*	

Paid by check # \_\_\_\_\_ (Payable to CA Grand York Rite) or  credit card at <https://ca-gyrs.square.site>

**Special Dietary notation:** We will try to accommodate those with special dietary needs and work with the hotel chefs. Please note your dietary concern: Vegan  Vegetarian  Gluten Free  and mark the count in each meal line above. If we are unable to accommodate for that meal, you will be contacted ahead of time and refund issued based on your decision. There is a full meal description on the [www.ca-gyrs.org](http://www.ca-gyrs.org) website.

Comments:

*Events are subject to change based on reservation responses or other factors.*

More forms (including the Order of High Priesthood, Thrice Illustrious Master, Past Commanders Association & Dignitary Introduction), menus and schedule are available from [www.ca-gyrs.org](http://www.ca-gyrs.org). For your convenience, we are allowing you to register and pay for the Order of High Priesthood, Thrice Illustrious Master and Past Commanders Association with your other meals and events. You must also include those respective forms with this one. We will forward the information and funds to the appropriate degree coordinators.

**2023 Grand York Rite Sessions May 14<sup>th</sup> to May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Visalia, CA**

Please send page 1 of this form and payment to:

CA-GYRS 1123 J Street Sacramento, CA 95814-2809

**Meal reservations are locked & will not be accepted after 05/01/23** (don't even ask)

*Onsite registration is available to the Companions and Sir Knights attending sessions without ordering meals.*

*Please be aware that Name Tags will not be printed for late registrants, so please register before the deadline.*

**No refunds after May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – unless approved by the Grand York Rite Sessions Executive Committee**

Contact the **Wyndham Hotel** 9000 W Airport Dr Visalia, California 93277 +1-559-651-5000

Tell the agent that you are in the **Grand York Rite** Group or register online via [www.ca-gyrs.org](http://www.ca-gyrs.org)

Room rate: \$99.00 +taxes.

Hotel reservation deadline is **05/01/23** Pending room block availability – best to register early

Questions, contact the following below:

- **General Co-Chairmen:** [chairmen@ca-gyrs.org](mailto:chairmen@ca-gyrs.org) **Ray Broomfield** (805) 482-6756  
and **Steve Goad** (760) 608-1585

**A few words about Reservation Only (\*R.O.\*) events:**

Although there is no charge for these events, please enter in a numerical value for the events you want to attend. This provides a headcount for the preparation of the event. Also, if the event is cancelled or changed you can be notified.

**Grand York Rite California (GYR CA) Corporation Annual Meeting.** The event starts at 8:00 am to completion of business. All members of the GYR CA Corporation are cordially invited to attend. Agenda for this annual business meeting will be published separately.

**Allied Masonic Degrees Statewide Meeting.** Representatives from each A.M.D. Council are requested to attend. This meeting will be to discuss A.M.D. at the statewide level and future degree presentations by the respective A.M.D. Councils.

**Vesper services.** Vespers is our gathering to honor our departed Companions and Sir Knights. All are encouraged to attend.

**The Order of Zanzibar.** Is a "Fun Degree" open to all, which will be held after the Grand Banquet. The cost for this degree is \$25. Proceeds from this degree will be donated to the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Fund.

**The Grand Installations.** We kindly request that you mark down the number of attendees for each of the Installations. This is to properly prepare the caterers for the reception following the installations.

**Golden State Chapter of Research.** All Royal Arch Masons are invited to attend. For a small fee of \$20, you can submit your petition at the meeting to become a lifetime member of the Golden State Research Chapter, and receive a copy of the Grand Orations Booklet 2020-2022.

**MMS (Masonic Membership Solutions) Training.** This is directed to our Secretaries / Recorders and Assistant Sec/Recs on using the MMS System and for others like the Dais Officers to understand the application. Phil and Tom are available for orientation and consultation upon request. Simply email [mms@ca-gyrs.org](mailto:mms@ca-gyrs.org) prior to May 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 with a day and time convenient for you and they will make an attempt to fit time for you into the overall schedule.





# 2023 GRAND YORK RITE SESSIONS Souvenir Ad Program Order Form

The printed program will be available at Grand Sessions  
AND a full color PDF format for distribution after the Sessions.

Company Name or Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Contact

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address City, State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### What do You Want Your Ad to Say?

Camera ready ad material is preferred. Provide an attachment in any of the following formats: pub, pdf, docx, doc, wpd, jpg, jpeg, bmp, png  
To [ads@ca-gyrs.org](mailto:ads@ca-gyrs.org)

Payment must accompany Ad request, payable to "Grand York Rite of CA" or use your credit card at <https://ca-gyrs.square.site/ad-orders>

### UPDATED DEADLINE FOR ACCEPTING AD REQUESTS: 4/14/23

Send Ad and Payment to  
CA-GYRS 1123 J Street Sacramento, CA 95814-2809  
or email [ads@ca-gyrs.org](mailto:ads@ca-gyrs.org)

Please enter quantity:

\_\_\_\_ Full Page @ \$180.00 each

\_\_\_\_ Half Page @ \$90.00 each

\_\_\_\_ Quarter Page @ \$45.00 each

\_\_\_\_ Eighth Page @ \$25.00 each

\_\_\_\_ Business Card @ \$25.00 each

\_\_\_\_ Name on Name Page (list below) @ \$5.00 each

Total Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Check this box if this is an update to a previous submission

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ or  Payment submitted at <https://ca-gyrs.square.site/ad-orders>

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

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File attachment name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

For Committee Use Only: Date Postmarked: \_\_\_\_\_ Ad Tracking number: A23-5 \_\_\_\_\_

Form revised Feb. 10, 2023