



THE CALIFORNIA ENCOMPASSER IS THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GRAND YORK RITE BODIES OF CALIFORNIA AND IS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MEMBERSHIP. THE ENCOMPASSER IS TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE MEMBERSHIP AT ALL CONVOCATIONS, ASSEMBLES AND CONCLAVES OF THE YORK RITE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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One Mason's Opinion of How to Succeed in Our Mission

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2005 Grand Marshal, MI Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, California

This is a copy of the speech given at the May 2005 Men's Luncheon for the Most Illustrious Grand Council of California, in Bakersfield

[Our MIPGM Larry A. Reynolds, Sr. asked me to address my fellow York Rite Masons at the 2005 Grand Sessions Council Luncheon. I had the opportunity to speak to many in the audience over the previous 4 days and most knew that I am not the shy person when it comes to public speaking. This audience, however, was intimidating to me. You should understand that I am very aware that many of them had much more experience in Masonry than I do. Many were what I would term to be part of the "old guard". That is the group that has been there, done that, and is a member of everything, for more years than I have been a mason, and I am not a new mason. Most have held offices that are so far in front of me that I cannot give it much thought because, quite frankly, if I did I would not have had the courage to be standing in front of them. Imagine someone at my tender age of 47 meeting a man, such as I did the previous evening, Most Illustrious Clifford Duncan that was a MIPGM - twice, a PGHP, a PGC and now Deputy Regional Commander and had accomplished much of that when I wasn't even out of my teenage years.

"He has so much to offer, and I have so little". Rt Illustrious Deputy Grand Master Jose Fiss - doesn't this sound familiar? Our Most Illustrious Grand Master confided to me that he said something similar to MIPGM Max Livingston many years ago. At the time our MI Grand Master Jose had just been asked to accept his first appointment to

the Grand Council Line. He was referring in comparison to another one of the appointees, Marcus Anwyl-Davies, a polished speaker, highly educated, and very organized. MIGM Max then replied "maybe you have something that he doesn't and put together maybe we can make this thing work." This then became the theme for all things possible with effort placed into opportunity.

I hope all of you listened very carefully to the Grand Orator during the 2005 morning Opening of Grand Council - carefully - because the message hit perfectly on the mark.]

Opportunity; what will you do with it?

Well, this is my opportunity today to speak my piece and I shall not waste it.

In the time span that I have been a Mason, I have always done my best to listen and learn from the more senior members of the craft. Even with what I may have accomplished in a short period of time, I am still not so far away from being a new York Rite Mason that I do not remember my first days. I make this point because - all this - being at Grand Sessions would be intimidating to any younger mason, no matter what this actual age is. Quite honestly, in "our" eyes, the old timers know it all. We young rookies, and I am a young rookie in the Grand Council, are struggling to learn right from wrong. I am not just speaking of Grand Council, it can be any body in Masonry. Who are these men that are our junior officers?

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How to Succeed in Our Mission

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You know them well; Some are young, some are retired and this is their time and opportunity to become High Priest, Master of the Lodge, Ill. Master, etc., Some of them are mechanics (my HP is a mechanic), some are middle managers, many have 2 small kids at home, and some are retreads. Most have difficulty learning the ritual. It isn't easy committing all this walking and talking to memory. If it was simple, we wouldn't have these Sr. Deacon Ritual Competitions. The last time they had to really memorize things was in high school, maybe college, and in both cases that was long ago. Yet, as a Senior Officer, the frustration is always whispered quietly; "why can't they get past their proficiencies sooner? I mean come on, we now have a book!" Enough of that, I didn't come here to give yet another speech on the worries and concerns of masonry or the statistics of decline in membership. Doing that do not help anyone and, with all respect intended, it most certainly bores me. I have heard it often enough by too many people. It is the solution that holds my interest. That solution that each of us is already painfully aware of, without investing ourselves, is in the increase of our membership. We need to find the path that holds the interest of those few special men that don't struggle very hard to learn things. Those that have "presence, and the ability to speak and lead", those that others will listen to and follow, and those that can also maintain a sense of time and how best to use it. These characteristics are keys to our survival, and not just survival, but growth. Where do we find such men? Show me a great period of growth and you will also identify a great leader.

Our opportunities come from 2 main areas, the large percentage are sojourners that are already part of our York Rite membership but have decided not to attend because of other interests, health, or sheer age. The other area is the blue lodge. To me this is the answer. Every one of us has a vested interest in the general Masonic membership and its well being. So what can we do? The blue lodge overall is struggling. We can talk about solutions to membership and we can criticize what isn't happening correctly all day long. Talking about it is exactly what we label it: "Preaching to the Choir" because unless we as individual Masonic leaders take personal action nothing will change. This is where my topic comes back to center focus. Somehow you and I need to reach out beyond our comfort zone as leaders and be more creative. I would challenge each of you, but especially the upcoming presiding officers of any Masonic Body, to change your strategy from just showing up to where you are supposed to be on a predetermined date. Quite honestly, if you plan to do the same thing as the person you just succeeded, the results are already recorded and you can see the results. You must find a better, more

innovative approach. Whether you will start this next year as Most Illustrious Grand Master, an Illustrious Master, Junior Warden, Master of a Blue Lodge, Grand High Priest, Captain General, Potentate, Grand Lecturer, or just an officer's coach or Senior Deacon, you need to readjust your approach. From the bottom of the Line to the top, we need to start anew. These are different times and we are trying to appeal to a different audience. We need to start from the very basics and become better role models. From this position we can more easily speak to those around us about the benefits of further light in masonry that occurs in the York Rite. Active participation also allows much more immediate acceptance in any conversation.

When I joined York Rite Masonry, my Blue Lodge had no York Rite members in the Line. In fact, my Lodge provided almost no venue for York Rite in anything they did as a group. MIPGM C. Leslie Dent and I joined the Officer's Line 4 years ago as Junior Warden and Senior Deacon. When I finished as Master last year, we had, in York Rite, almost the entire line of Blue Lodge officers from bottom to top. My point is, you can gain access and acceptance, and support, if you look for another way not yet tried.

So here is the situation:

I am an example of today's Mason. I am a working man. My wife also has her own career. We like our vacations, we like to go out to dinner. Masonry is only one of my interests and it definitely is not the only thing I have to do in the evening hours of every night. I am, however, different from many others in that I come from a Masonic family lineage and therefore I hold my search for further Masonic light as one of my needs. I am not sure that the majority of those we are trying to reach have that same priority...yet. Therefore, the real question is how do we in the Lodge position ourselves as a priority in a potential candidate's life competing with that man's personal schedule that includes youth softball, the kid's karate nights, business travel, the weekend to Napa, dinner with the family, shopping at the mall, going to the movies, Rotary, Lions, night school, TV Football and Prime Time hit shows? You laugh, but that is today's generation of working people. We both work, and at night we are so tired that it is a real big choice to drive to yet another Masonic meeting, especially one that we know will be the same as the last Masonic meeting with a dinner menu that is probably not heart healthy. The dinner menu may change but the faces and topics are pretty similar and those few miles to get there at the end of a long day seem to be awfully far to travel. Hopefully, the meeting won't take forever to conclude because the Master in charge wasn't prepared with his meeting agenda. How do you get me to come? How do you get me to travel that distance? What steps have you taken lately to make me remember that coming to the Lodge tonight is more impor-

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An Interesting Protest

During the height of the anti-Masonic movement, George M. Dallas, Grand Master of Pennsylvania and Vice President under James Monroe, was summoned to appear before the legislature to tell what he knew of the Masons. His written protest follows:

“I am a citizen of Pennsylvania by birth and constant residence. Having imbibed in early youth, I still retain a strong sense of the free spirit of her institutions; and am unconscious of ever having, directly or indirectly, intentionally or inadvertently, committed an act or uttered a sentiment repugnant to her Constitution, inconsistent with her laws, injurious to her morals, or derogatory to her character.

“I am a member of the society of Freemasons. It is more than 20 years since I became so. At that period the example of the wisest and purest patriots, of Dr. Franklin, Gen. Washington, Gen. Warren, Gen. LaFayette, and of many dear and near friends, were naturally alluring. Public opinion designated the association as virtuous, useful, and harmless. In passing through the forms of admission, I voluntarily assumed obligations and duties in themselves perfectly compatible with the paramount obligations and duties of a citizen to his country, and tributary to the pursuits of an enlarged philanthropy.

“The ninth article of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, titled Declaration of Rights, sets forth and unalterably establishes ‘the general, great, and essential principles of liberty and free government.’

“As a private citizen of Pennsylvania I claim, with special reference to this Article of her Constitution, to possess and enjoy rights and liberties which no earthly power can abridge or destroy; nor will I consent to be in the slightest degree accessory to the mischiefs which a surrender or waiver of those rights and liberties, on an occasion so ostensible as this, might produce.

I will not consent to discredit the declaration that the free communication of thoughts and opinions is one of the inviolable rights of man.’ I will not consent to consider as idle and nugatory the emphatic precaution, that ‘the people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and possessions, from unreasonable searches and seizures.’ I will not consent to the validity of an ‘ex post facto law.’ In a word, I will not consent to hold my rights and liberties of private intercourse, private sentiment, and private business subject to the domiciliary visitations, the changeable majority, or the ideal policy of any body of men whatever.

“Added to the considerations at which I have thus glanced, it is impossible for me to be insensible to the dic-

tates of personal honor. Assuredly, this sentiment should never restrain any one from denouncing what is criminal or dishonest. Were I acquainted with anything of that nature in the operations and tendencies of Freemasonry, nothing could bind me to silence. But I was received by this association into its own confidence, upon my own application. I have been allowed a knowledge of the modes in which its members identify each other, and avoid deceptions upon their benevolence.

At a time when neither law, nor public opinion, nor my own conscience suggested a doubt of its correctness, I engaged myself to secrecy, and I cannot, without a sense of treachery and degradation prove false to my promise. Better, by far, endure the penalties of alleged contumacy, be they what they may.

— *Freemasonry Monthly Magazine*
November 1866

“MASONS, NOT MERELY MEMBERS”

Much more is required of each Mason than committing to memory a portion of our degrees. A man, upon becoming a Mason, has new responsibilities in citizenship, in his moral conduct, and in his family considerations. Above, all, we Masons should seek to strengthen the character of the newly raised brother. To learn more about Masonry should be the goal of each of us, and the Lodge should make this task an easier one. The Master should request a brother Mason who is knowledgeable in Masonic subjects to talk with and teach each newly obligated Master Mason, so that the latter truly will be a Mason and not just a member of a Masonic Lodge. To this end, I urge all Masters, as well as all other Officers of every Masonic Lodge, to take whatever steps are deemed necessary to see that all of the candidates who seek Masonic membership receive Masonic light in such sufficiency that the candidates will become Masons, as well as members of a Masonic Lodge.

— *M.W. Lester S. McElwain, Grand Master, 1971*

Quick Quote

Man’s maturity: to have regained the seriousness that he had as a child at play.

— *Friedrich Nietzsche*

There is only one thing people like that is good for them; a good night’s sleep.

— *Edgar Watson Howe*

How to Succeed in Our Mission

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tant than my 15 other choices given tonight's precious few hours? I am not retired and my day planner isn't filled out for the next 60 days in advance because time off, when I can get it, is precious, and I would like to use it carefully.

To the senior officers in this audience, it all starts with you! This is your year, whether presiding, or maybe yet to come. Whether that day is 2 years from now, or tonight, it is all the same. Don't think of it as a chore. I would like you to think of these days as the opportunity of your lifetime. You finally have a chance and your own special opportunity to make a difference. You have the platform and the forum to make your impact. I challenge you to be different. Be better than those that paved the road before you. Reach down inside and think about how to reach the newer or less experienced mason, of whatever body, or better yet, a non-mason. This is your opportunity to be what we really need...a leader that came prepared to reach out and then actually delivered beyond our expectation.

Our MIPGM Larry Reynolds attended his Grand Reception by Palo Alto Council last year. I was there to watch him speak. He briefly spoke to the Illustrious Master in the East and then almost immediately moved down and addressed us from the floor as he often does. As a spectator, that movement is never lost upon anyone because it is a unique quality, one that forces you to speak from the heart and leave the carefully written speech elsewhere. Not everyone can do that. On that evening he walked down to the Northwest corner and asked two brand new Cryptic Masons to join him. He spoke to them personally during his address to the Council. He told them how valuable they were. He reminded the Officers that these men were a very important part of their future. He continued to spend his evening recognizing a new "Spark Award" recipient in the Council. Then he addressed the Illustrious Master and told him what a fine job he was doing. There were other things that occurred during the course of the evening but then I have seen him duplicate this scene time and again. Remember, "reaching out" and recognizing someone else's achievement during a time when the spotlight was meant for you is a more visible statement of your character than shining the light upon yourself because you can. We are in the business of relationships, not just memorizing ritual. Relationships are the building blocks of success. Build enough relationships and you can accomplish anything and overcome all obstacles. We need to buy into the power of relationships . . . and the vision of how best to connect all the parts.

Like many of you, I am personally ready for a more positive message in Masonry. Put yourself in a younger Mason's shoes. As a junior Mason observing my senior officers, I would want to know what I am doing right and

not always told everything that I am doing wrong. I am already painfully aware that I make mistakes and don't know all the signs on cue. My ritual can be spotty sometimes and getting the right title of the Inspector out of my mouth is easier read than said. When you have time, please remember to whisper good counsel in my ear - one to one. Please speak to me as a friend and teach me what I need to know. Please don't embarrass me in front of everyone by spotlighting my flaws. Invite me to sit at your dinner table with a welcome smile and please make my wife comfortable especially when she doesn't know anyone. If she doesn't enjoy herself, it is less likely that I will be a strong member. By the way, do you know that, in my eyes, you senior guys represent the Fabric of our Lodge/Chapter/Council/Commandery? It is important that I know my organization's history. I am your future! Look around at the average age of our fraternity. If you don't take the time to include me in conversation and then do the inevitable and die, then great, you have just managed to delete the chapter that you represent for all time. How do I remember you? If there is anything that is most important to me in our fraternity it is simply that I want to hear about you and our history. As a leader, there can never be too much communication.

Equally important on the topic of communication: I want to know what is coming up and when. Please repeat it again and again. One day, when I am in your shoes, I will have observed that communication is expected to be constant and ongoing to have successful events. I want to know that you have something planned for my next meeting that is different from the last one I attended. Is there a scheduled guest speaker to talk about something genuinely interesting at dinner so my wife can enjoy looking forward to coming as much as I do? Again, Masonry is my interest and she is my support so it is important to me that she enjoys coming to my functions. Please give me something that I will be proud to invite my friends to. By the way, do you realize how much I pay attention to the smallest of things. Please come prepared and structure your time so I do not lose interest.

During dinner, or otherwise, I would like to see the amazement on the face of a Mason who receives his MSA, Ish Sodi, or Hiram Award, unexpectedly, because all the important people to him knew and came, but he didn't recognize that significance. That alone would make me want to come. I would like to see our ladies celebrated on ladies night in a way that far exceeds their expectations. Buy them flowers or candy, or both. Find a way, even if it takes a donation from the brother/husband himself, and tell them again how much they are loved and valued. To my head officer, I would love to see you come to each dinner table and make sure we were comfortable and not needing anything to make it a better evening. I would like to see our

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young candidates recognized over and over along with their wives, so they feel like they are truly important and accepted in our midst. I would love for my Illustrious Master, High Priest, or Commander that comes to a Mason's funeral service to appear with a beautiful personal card and a rose for the widow, the card having been signed by 50 masons. That actually means that you prepared before you showed up. I would love to be part of a group that takes the time to go to the hospital to razz a brother to better health just because he needs some cheering up. I would like to receive 3 e-mails from the leader of my Masonic group reminding me of every upcoming Degree Conferral because my leader really cares and I know it is important to him that I attend.

My point is that you can reach out in so many ways by just rethinking your approach. The rule; do it 8 times and it becomes habit.

I speak of these things because it has never been an option of myself to do my Installations, Ladies Nights, Hiram Award presentations, Golden Veteran's Awards, and Past Masters Evening the same as those before me. I speak in Blue Lodge terms because it is my closest frame of reference. I was Master for the second time last year. I believed that Masons and their Ladies took the time to come to my events and I intended to deliver a product better than their expectation.

I spoke to a visiting Master recently who told me he was amazed at how successful and vibrant our Blue Lodge was when he visited, I spoke to a Master recently that told me he was concerned about declining attendance in the Lodge. The Lodge we were speaking about was one and the same one to both men. To one I replied we work at it, to the other I replied that we should work at it a little harder. Change starts with me and you. The person that succeeds in filling the room is always the person that has visualized the opportunity all the way to the podium and then created the outcome. That person thought about the entire event from all angles and then simply asked those around him to help connect the dots. Masonry isn't failing and our craft isn't going anywhere. I recently coached two 19 year olds. One passed his proficiency from first coaching session to Closed Lodge Examination, in 5 days. The second told me 2 things, first that he wanted to do it faster than his friend and, second, could he have more petitions because he had other friends that want to be Masons. We simply have to start living more true to the golden rule, Show others by example why being a mason is something worthy of all imitation. Seize your opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others, give joy to other people, recognize and celebrate their lives, take time to laugh and cry with them. Say Hi and smile, and mean it. Most of all where Masonry and our Craft is concerned, lead by example.

Learn our ritual well but don't get stuck in the printed portion because you will have passed only 25% of your lifetime exam.

Being a Mason means that you understand that we are all one group and dependent upon each other. Survival isn't someone else's job - it is yours and mine. It's your opportunity, how will you use it?

Robert A.L. (Bob) Whitfield

2005 Rt. Illustrious Grand Marshall

*Most Illustrious Grand Council of Cryptic Masons,
California*

THE "MASONIC RELIGION"

By Carlos Antonio Martinez, Jr.,

Pasadena Lodge No. 272,

Southern California Research Lodge F&AM

The first is nothing but the vehicle and/or bridge which unites Men with God. The second has the purpose of tightening the relations between men, and to gather them inside that temple where distinctions of Creed, Race, and/or Social Status, ARE NOT admissible. Our Fraternity considers "Brothers" of All Men, of All Races and of All Countries.

Genuine Speculative Masonry is a world of Select Men, of Laborious Workers of the Future, of Knights who march at the vanguard of Progress. It is an Association of Men who are ahead of their time, Men who feel their foreheads illuminated by the Sun of Another Era of Fraternity and Civilization; and thus, animated by sublime hopes and congregated by a feeling of common love, they know how and when to honor a Brother who has been a Good Builder/Worker, and for him, they reverently erect the most real and valuable "altar"... the Altar of Respect and Admiration.

Authentic Speculative Masonry searches for the cusp of the Truth, which conducts men through a path of the True Love and Wisdom!

Legitimate Speculative Masonry engenders Humanitarianism, for this should be one of the first virtues of every upright man!

The Voice of Nature, from where the Universal Clamor of Humanitarianism is originated, asks that we love one another, and that we procure for our mutual well being? This is the concise tenet of the True Religion of Humanity . . . The "Masonic Religion"!

Freemasonry in a Space Age

On October 4, 1957, Sputnik 1, the first artificial satellite was launched, opening the Space Age. When Sputnik I made its dramatic appearance, the Newsletter planned to capitalize on the emotions of the moment. An editorial - "In Spite of Sputnik" - approved by the Sovereign Grand Commander - was laid aside to make room for his generous comments on the retirement of the Grand Prior. Imagine our surprise when, a week or two later, the New York Herald Tribune carried an editorial with the same title! It was a comfort to realize that a trained editorial writer in New York and an amateur in Boston shared the same conviction: In spite of Sputnik, life goes on! Our editorial was promptly consigned to the wastebasket but the Sputnik incident has now evolved into a worldwide concern with the myriad problems of the Space Age.

One who knows nothing of astrophysics is grateful for the significant results of the current emphasis upon outer space. It has introduced us to a large group of scholars who are masters in this field. They are emerging as pioneers in dramatic new aspects of national defense and in rather terrifying weapons of aggressive war. It is a new world which now confronts us a challenging world in which nations must deal with space ships, space platforms and, perhaps, with military bases on the moon!

A solemn note of warning has been sounded by Dean Roy Pearson of Andover Newton Theological School in West Newton, MA. "It is good that we increase our proficiency in science," he says, "but only if we do not diminish our capacity in those areas for which science was designed to be not master but servant. We shall find the profit small when we have sold our souls to buy a Sputnik."

One wishes that Dean Pearson's illuminating article in *The Christian Century* Jan. 1, 1958) could be read by every Freemason. "Our salvation," he concludes, "lies neither in the destruction of the Russians nor in the achievement of a military stalemate. It lies in our own commitment to a noble heritage which is as blithely neglected as it is desperately needed."

One who is confused by voices on television, radio and by news columnists with such themes as intercontinental ballistic missiles, rockets and space conquests, which only a few scientists understand, may find peace of mind not only in the church but also in a tiled room from which the noisy world is shut out, a room with an altar in the center and, on the altar, an open Bible. There he feels the nearness and power of the Eternal. That is not an escape psychosis. It is a moral and spiritual conquest. It is the conviction that there is a calmness of spirit which is undisturbed by explosions on a dozen proving grounds.

Do not misunderstand. We must have the proving grounds and be militarily strong. But one may be content to leave the bewildering complexities of the Space Age to the specialists and to trust the experts with the task of assuring

us military protection and a wise distribution of Space Age equipment among friendly nations.

There remains the problem of building a national life that is worth protecting. That is the function of the church and the school, but it is also a challenging opportunity for Freemasonry - a worldwide brotherhood, universal in its fellowship, generous in its manifold charities and loyal to the ethical and spiritual precepts which make any nation strong.

— *McIlyar H. Lichliter, 33°*,
Supreme Council Newsletter, March 1958

DAKOTA TRIBAL WISDOM

The tribal wisdom of the Dakota Indians, passed from one generation to the next, says that when you discover that you are riding a dead horse, the best strategy is to dismount. But in modern business, education, and government, because heavy investment factors are taken into consideration, other strategies are often tried with dead horses, including the following:

1. Buying a stronger whip
 2. Changing riders
 3. Threatening the horse with termination
 4. Appointing a committee to study the horse
 5. Arranging to visit other sites to see how they ride dead horses
 6. Lowering the standards so that dead horses can be included
 7. Reclassifying the dead horse as "living impaired"
 8. Hiring outside contractors to ride the dead horse
 9. Harnessing several dead horses together to increase speed
 10. Providing additional funding and/or training to increase the dead horse's performance.
 11. Doing a productivity study to determine if lighter riders would improve the dead horse's performance
 12. Declaring that the dead horse carries lower overhead and therefore contributes more to the bottom line than some of the other horses
 13. Rewriting the expected performance requirements for all horses And as a final strategy
 14. Promoting the dead horse to a supervisory position
-

Masonry Noted For Its Patriotism

Only two groups oppose and detest Masonry those who are densely ignorant and those who are intensely and bitterly prejudiced without cause or reason. The Masons of America are loyal to the American flag; the Masons of England, Denmark, Sweden and other countries are loyal to the flags of their nations. They are to be honored for this loyalty. Masonry believes in freedom of religion, freedom of the press, and all other principles set forth in our sacred Bill of rights. — *Exchange*

THE RELIGION OF HAPPINESS

Address by the M.W. Grand Master Virgilio Gaito NY

"The moral law within me, the starry sky above me ", this is how Emanuel Kant summarized his ethical vision of life. The true Mason learns to fine tune and practice the concept of existence in the Temple which is based on the enrichment and ongoing search of himself through esoteric meditation on symbols and nature.

"We believe these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal and endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, among which are Life, Freedom and the search for Happiness".

This solemn declaration was made on July 4, 1776 by the Fathers of the Declaration of Independence of the United States of America, many of which were Masons, such as Benjamin Franklin and John Hancock.

Since then, memorable events such as the French Revolution, the Civil War, independence battles fought against colonialism in central and South America, the Italian Risorgimento, enlightened by the ideas and action of many Masons, have consolidated the basic principle according to which every human being, equal to others, may be the creator of individual and collective destiny.

Only Freedom can guarantee Equality since any constraint, even merely psychological, limits the capability of strongly asserting one's ideas.

The Solemn proposal contained in the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Man, whose fiftieth year anniversary will be celebrated this year and is also the fruit of many Mason minds, represents a significant milestone. Article I of this Declaration affirms that: "All men are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and a conscience and must act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood".

Neither Equality nor Freedom alone can open to Mankind the path to the search for Happiness, the supreme aspiration eternally sought for. Both are values that must be removed from their conceptual abstraction and inserted into the reality lived by man, who, owing to his very nature, is led to affirming his own ego and consequently to abusing and denying both Freedom and Equality.

The Mason Martin Luther King believed in this undeniable values only later to be assassinated by the weight of intolerance. At the cry of "I had a dream" he was able to gather multitudes of downtrodden in the historical civil rights March whose fiftieth anniversary we commemorate deeply moved.

The right to the search for happiness, solemnly stated in the Declaration of Independence of the United States of America, could not rise to the dignity of supreme being if not based on binding tie with the sacred, essential in ensuring universal and transcendent value to the concept of happiness which would otherwise border on superficial and ephemeral hedonism.

The Initiated Mason is aware of the divine essence that drives him and of his undeniable mission to improve himself and—through his own example—also others. Such a moral objective qualifies the difficult path of his life.

CELEBRATE TODAY — FOR ALL THOSE BORN PRIOR TO 1945

WE ARE SURVIVORS!!! Consider the changes we have witnessed:

We were before television, before polio shots, frozen foods, xerox, contact lenses, Frisbees and the **PILL**.

We were before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams and ballpoint pens; before pantyhose, dishwashers, clothes dryers, electric blankets, air conditioners, drip-dry clothing—**AND**—before Man walked on the Moon!

We got married first and **THEN** lived together. How quaint can you be?

In our times, closets were for clothes, not for "coming out of." Bunnies were small rabbits—and rabbits were not Volkswagens. Designer jeans were scheming girls named Jean or Jeanne, and having a meaningful relationship meant getting along well with our cousins. We thought fast food was what you ate during Lent, and Outer Space was the back of the local theater!

We were before house-husbands, gay rights, computer dating, dual careers and commuter marriages. We were before day-care centers, group therapy and nursing homes. We never heard of FM radio, tape decks, electric typewriters, artificial hearts, word processors, yogurt, and guys wearing earrings. For us time-sharing meant togetherness—not computers or condominiums. A "chip" meant a piece of wood; hardware meant hardware and software wasn't even a word!

In 1940, "Made in Japan" meant junk and the term "making out" referred to how you did on an exam. Pizzas, "McDonalds" and instant coffee were unheard of.

We hit the scene when there were 5 and 10 stores where you bought things for five and ten cents. The corner drug store sold ice cream cones for a nickel or a dime. For one nickel you would ride a street car—make a phone call—buy a Pepsi or enough stamps to mail one letter **AND** two postcards. You could buy a new Chevy Coupe for \$600, but who could afford one? A pity, too, because gas was only 11 cents a gallon!

In our day, cigarette smoking was fashionable, **GRASS** was mowed, **COKE** was a cold drink and **POT** was something you cooked in. **ROCK MUSIC** was a Grandma's lullaby and **AIDS** were helpers in the Principal's office.

We were certainly not before the difference between the sexes were discovered, but we were surely before the **SEX CHANGE**; we made do with what we had. And we were the last generation that was so dumb as to think you needed a husband to have a baby!

No wonder we are so confused and there is a such a generation gap! **BUT WE SURVIVED!!!** What better reason to celebrate? — *Margie Barber*

Colorado River Fall Festival

October 23/24/25, 2005

Riverside Hotel / Laughlin, NV

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

(NOTE - ALL TIMES PACIFIC DAYLIGHT TIME - SAME IN CA, NV AND AZ)

Sunday, October 23, 2005

- 1:00 PM Registration for candidates and attendees (until 5:00 PM) - Harbor Room 1
- 5:30 PM Team Leaders Orientation - Starview Room - MANDATORY for team leaders
- 7:00 PM KYCH - Harbor Rooms 1/2/3
- 8:30 PM Candidate's Orientation (Public invited) - Starview Room - MANDATORY for candidates

Monday, October 24, 2005

- 7:00 AM - 11:00 AM and 2 PM - 6 PM - Registration - Harbor Room 1
- 8:00 AM Open Chapter, confer Capitular Degrees * - Starview Room
- 3:30 PM Open Council, confer Cryptic Degrees Starview Room - Degree work by the Southern Nevada York Rite Bodies
- 7:00 PM Confer "Royal Arch Widow's Degree" - Starview Room * Candidates must be in assigned seats 10 minutes prior (times may vary)

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

- 7:00 AM - 11:00 AM - Registration - Harbor Room I
- 8:00 AM Open Commandery, confer Templar Orders Starview Room - Candidates must be in assigned seats 10 minutes prior (times may vary)
- 7:00 PM Grand Banquet, Starview Room

Attention Participants:

We have not scheduled lunches for any day. Please budget your time on lunch breaks - lines, particularly for the buffets, can be long, and there are no clocks in the facilities. Dress is dark suit or uniform (Lodge dress).

Ladies Activities:

Riverside Hotel has 6 movie theaters, Bingo, Bowling Alley on premises.
Horizon Mail (outlet stores, shopping, food court, 9 movie theaters) is one block away.

(Note - due to the presentation of the "Royal Arch Widow's Degree" put on for the women , there will be no "Super Excellent Master Degree" for the men in 2005, but it will return next year!)

Special Rooms: Hospitality Room, Los Angeles Fraternal Supply, Maury Marshall, Sid's Pins

Note: This schedule is subject to change without notice or obligation please make sure you have the latest schedule.

Colorado River Fall Festival Riverside Hotel & Casino, Laughlin, NV October 23/24/25, 2005

For your Hotel Reservation

All reservations/cancellations must be made through CRFF by mail by September 30, 2005
Hotel check in 2:00PM ...check out 12:00 noon. All times Pacific Daylight time.

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____ STATE: _____
 ZIP CODE: _____
 TELEPHONE: _____
 EMAIL ADDRESS: _____@_____._____

Room Request (circle appropriate):

Handicap King Double Smoking Non-Smoking (No Room)

For our information and your Name Badge, check as applies:

Candidate Non-Participant or Hotel Room only (No Name Tag)
 (If Candidate, your Sec./Rec. must send "Request for Courtesy Work" to the Candidate Registrar by 9/30/2005)
 For your badge: (All attendees must register for Name Badge to attend sessions or participate.)

FIRST NAME: _____
 LAST NAME: _____
 TITLE (IF DESIRED): _____

FIRST NAME FOR YOUR LADY'S BADGE
 (IF DESIRED): _____

THE CHARGES

Festival Registration (Masons, Cand's only)	\$10.00	\$ _____ .00
Hotel Room Sun/Mon/Tues	\$79.00 1/2, add'l \$20 ea	\$ _____ .00
Royal Arch Widow's Degree (Candidate)	\$10.00	\$ _____ .00
Banquet	\$32.50	\$ _____ .00
TOTAL ENCLOSED		\$ _____ .00

**Make all checks payable to, and mail to:
Colorado River Fall Festival**

7938 Center Street
Mohave Valley AZ 86440-9206

Need Confirmation? Include a self addressed, stamped envelope or email address.
PLEASE DO NOT SHRINK OR CHANGE SIZE OF THIS FORM

COLORADO RIVER FALL FESTIVAL

October 23,24,25, 2005 -- Riverside Hotel, Laughlin NV

REQUEST TO CONFER COURTESY WORK

NOTICE: Request must be postmarked not later than September 30, 2005

Please type or print everything except signatures!

Use one form for each Candidate

_____ Chapter No. _____, RAM
 _____ Council No. _____, CM or R&SM
 _____ Commandery No. _____, KT

To: David G. Stankow, Candidate Registrar 480-897-9555
 2714 West Nopal Circle stankow@worldnet.att.net
 Mesa, AZ 85202

Dear Companions and Sir Knights:

Please confer the Degrees and Orders of the York Rite indicated below on the following candidate, who has been) (will be) elected to receive them.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE (with A/C) _____

Please check Degrees and Orders to be conferred:

RAM: MM _____ PM _____ MEM _____ RA _____
 CM: RM _____ SM _____ SEM _____ (SEM even-numbered years only)
 KT: RC _____ OM _____ OT _____

I certify that the above-named Candidate (has been) (will be) elected to receive the Degrees and Orders indicated, and that he is in all ways duly qualified. (If he has not yet been elected, I will notify the Candidate Registrar if he fails to be elected before the Festival.)

SIGNATURE: _____

SECY-REC NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE (with A/C): _____

..... (Please emboss seals below this line).....

CHAPTER
SEAL

COUNCIL
SEAL

COMMANDERY
SEAL

NOTICE

1. Requests for courtesy work must be mailed to Mesa, **postmarked not later than September 30, 2005.**
2. Appropriate seals must be embossed in the appropriate spaces.
3. **CANDIDATES MUST ALSO REGISTER FOR MEALS AND LODGING ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30,2005, TO THE MOHAVE VALLEY ADDRESS!**
4. You and your Grand Secretary/Recorder will be notified of courtesy work completed.
5. **Any request postmarked AFTER September 30, 2005 will not be honored -- no exceptions.**

William N. Wine Grand High Priest Itinerary

- 9/12 GHP Official Visit, Auburn, Delta Chapter
 9/15 Table Chapter, Pleasanton, Doric Chapter
 10/1-4 General Grand Sessions Rapid City, SD
 10/9-12 Annual Meeting San Francisco Grand Lodge of California
 10/15 Festival - RA & Council Alameda
 East Bay York Rite Association
 10/23-26 Colorado River Festival, Laughlin, NV
 10/29 Festival Commandery, Alameda
 East Bay York Rite Association
 10/9 GHP Official Visit, Orange County Royal Arch
 10/25-27 DeMolay Convention, Sacramento
 Northern California DeMolay

Jose A. Fiss MIGM Itinerary 2005-06

- 9/2 Anaheim, DeMolay Conclave
 9/6 Oasis Council #64 Victorville, Official Visit
 9/8 Sonora Council #5, Sonora, Official Visit
 9/12 Sac. Council #1, Nev. Council #62, Auburn, 2 Way Recp'n.
 9/15 Alpha Council # 39, Santa Monica, Official Visit
 9/30/10/3 General Grand Council Rapid City S.D., Triennial
 10/6 Shekinah Council # 35, Bellflower, MIGM Reception
 10/7 Omega Council #11, Van Nuys, MIGM Reception
 10/10-11-12 Grand Lodge Communication
 10/23-24-25 Nevada, Colorado River Fall Festival
 11/17 Helix Council #58, Escondido Official Visit
 11/23 San Diego Council #23, Chula Vista, Official Visit
 11/28 Omega Council #11, 50 Year Pin Presentation
 12/8 Shasta Council #6, Red Bluff, Official Visit

Milton M. Abbott, Jr. Grand Commander's Itinerary

- 9/4 DeMolay Conclave in Anaheim
 9/9 Vacaville Commandery in Vacaville
 9/12 GHP & GIM Reception in Auburn
 9/17 Dept IV Reception in Palo Alto
 9/18 York Rite Collage in Roseville
 9/21 Eureka Commandery Reception in Eureka
 9/26 Quincy-Lassen Reception In Quincy
 10/9 Grand Lodge in San Francisco
 10/22 Grand Chapter OES in Fresno
 10/23 CRFF in Loughlin
 11/2 Ed. Foundation in San Anselmo
 11/11 & 12 South West Dept.

"Immortal Utterings"

"I think there is a world market for, maybe five computers."
 — Thomas Watson, Chairman of IBM, 1943.

"Computers, in the future, may weigh no more than 1.5 tons." — Popular Mechanics, forecasting the relentless march of science, 1949.

"I have traveled the length and breadth of this country, and talked with the best people, and I can assure you that data processing is a fad that won't last out the year." — The editor in charge of business books for Prentice Hall, 1957.

"But what is it good for?" — Engineer at the Advanced Computing Systems Division of IBM, 1968, commenting on the microchip.

"There is no reason anyone would want a computer in their home." — Ken Olson, president, chairman and founder of Digital Equipment Corp., 1977.

"This 'telephone' has too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communication. The device is, inherently, of no value." — Western Union internal memo, 1876.

"The wireless music box has no imaginable commercial value. Who would pay for a message sent to nobody in particular?" — David Sarnoff's associates in response to his urgings for investment in the radio in the 1920s.

"The concept is interesting and well-formed. But, in order to earn better than a 'C,' the idea must be feasible." — A Yale Univ. management professor in response to Fred Smith's paper proposing reliable overnight delivery service. (Smith went on to found Federal Express Corp.)

"Who wants to hear actors talk?" — H.M. Warner, Warner Brothers, 1927.

"I'm just glad it will be Clark Cable who is falling on his face and not Gary Cooper." — Gary Cooper on his decision not to take the leading role in "Gone With The Wind".

"A cookie store is a bad idea. Besides, the market research reports say America likes crispy cookies, not soft and chewy cookies like you make." — Response to Debbi Fields' idea of starting Mrs. Fields' Cookies.

"We don't like their sound and guitar music is on the way out." — Decca Recording Co. rejecting the Beatles, 1962.

"You want to have consistent and uniform muscle development across all of your muscles? It can't be done. It's just a fact of life. You just have to accept inconsistent muscle development as an unalterable condition of weight training." — Response to Arthur Jones, who solved the "unsolvable" problem by inventing Nautilus.

"Stocks have reached what looks like a, permanently, high plateau." — Irving Fisher, Professor of Economics, Yale University, 1929.

And we must add the Immortal words of Charles H. Duell, Commissioner, U.S. Office of Patents, 1899: "Everything that can be invented has been invented."

Contributions are solicited for this Calendar Page and for the entire publication. Please forward all contributions to the Grand Secretary or Donald J. Spencer, 8350 Rathburn Ave., Northridge 91325. Phone 818-885-0289. Fax 818-885-5913. E-mail Dspen39087@aol.com. Copy deadlines are February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1. Publication schedule: March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1.



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