

THE WORKMAN



Randy Downey, GHP
FEBRUARY 2018



Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California

Vol. IX No. 9

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Grand High Priest's Message

Companions,

As we move rapidly into this new year, thoughts should be focused on activities for your Chapters – degrees, social events, educational nights, and hopefully others. If, when you think about what your Chapter will do this year, and all you can come up with is a few stated Convocations, then I would ask you to alter the way you think about Royal Arch Masonry.

We have seen over the last several years that doing things the way we have always done them is a recipe for diminished attendance, lack of interest, and crippling complacency. We need to do more, and we need to be more to those many Companions who either show up only occasionally, or not at all. You may have read in previous articles I've written, that we as a craft are simply not meeting the needs for what I think is the majority of our Companions. If we were, then those Companions would be attending our meetings and functions. Royal Arch Masonry is, in my opinion, a great source of light and a most worthwhile organization. But it is only as good as may be seen by those around us. If your Chapter meets only four or six times a year, and you do little else, then it is most likely that you are having trouble filling chairs, and perhaps even getting a quorum to open your Convocations. If you do not make your presence known in the Masonic community around you, how then will your brethren know who we are and what we do?

Companions, consider this a fresh start. Make plans for an active and relevant Chapter in 2018. And remember, good ideas do not have to come only from the High Priest or the officers. Some of the best ideas spring from new Companions. They can think outside the box, because they don't know what the box is supposed to look like. Tap into the thoughts and ideas of new Companions, or even Companions who you haven't seen in a while. Ask them. You might be surprised at what you hear.

Here are some thoughts of how to build an active and vibrant Chapter. This year, plan to confer at least one of our degrees, or one more than you currently confer. Assign some of your newest Companions to the cast, or perhaps as backup cast members, so that they pay close attention during the practices and degree conferral, and will gain a greater understanding. Create an activities committee – one that actually functions. Have them recommend a variety of activities, from social events to community service to member education. Form a committee whose sole function is to reach out to local Lodges, with the intent of publicizing Royal Arch Masonry and York Rite Masonry.

Think about all you might be able to do in your Chapter. Have a ladies night, where your honor your wives, ladies, and the sweethearts of your Chapter. Host a dinner for all your Companions that is just a social activity – no business or ritual. Invite all of the Companions. If your budget allows, make the dinner free. Hold joint events with another nearby Chapter. It can be fun, and the increased numbers can have a symbiotic effect – it can energize everyone. Have a presence at local festivals, such as art and craft fairs or other community events. Sponsor a day trip or even a weekend trip with your Companions and their families. Hold a night of instruction, in which papers are presented on the history and symbolism or the Royal Arch, or other relevant topics. Hold a competition for the most enriching and well-received article for your monthly bulletin. This is only a short list of things that can be done.

So Companions, you see that there is so much more that you can do, other than just holding meetings a few times a year. And I submit to you that we must do these things – that we must become more than we are at this moment, else we become less relevant with each passing day.

Companions, I realize, a bit wistfully, that there are only a few months left in this Grand Capitular year. But I'm very much looking forward to the last remaining activities, and the opportunity to meet even more of our Companions.

My door is open by means of email and telephone. I invite you to contact me with questions, concerns, ideas, or suggestions.

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE!

Randy R. Downey, KYGCH
163rd Grand High Priest, Royal Arch Masons of California

SCHOOLS OF INSTRUCTION

Our Ritual Schools of Instruction (SOIs) are shaping up for the following dates and expected locations:

1. SoCal - Downey Lodge - Saturday, 24 February
2. CentCal - King David Lodge SLO - Saturday, 31 March (Yes, it is the day Before Easter!).
3. NorCal - East Bay area - Saturday, 28 April - location is at the Siminoff Lodge at the Masonic Homes in Union City.

All SOIs will start training at 9:30 am and complete by 3:00 pm with lunch provided on site. The topics to be covered will vary slightly, but will all include Opening/Balloting/Closing, PM and MMM degree floor work. Please get the word out that ALL Companions are invited to attend! Bring your ritual books and be prepared to fill a station.

MARK MASTER DEGREE

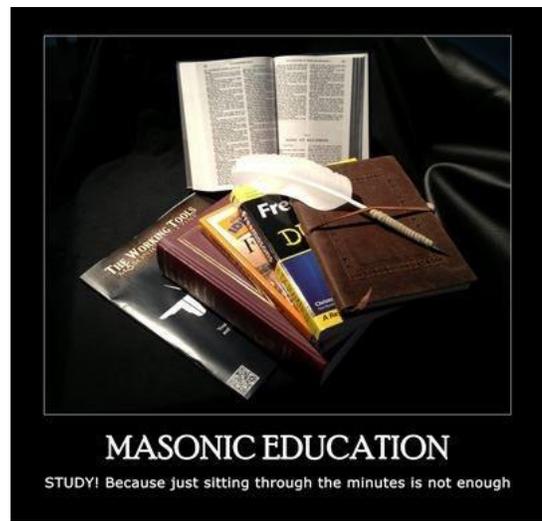
PETALUMA Royal Arch Chapter #22 is pleased to announce that on Monday March 19, 2018 it will be conferring the Mark Master degree at 7:30 PM at the Petaluma / Hamilton Lodge located at 9 Western Ave. in Petaluma, California. All area Royal Arch chapters who have potential candidates are invited. We would be most pleased to confer the degree upon them. If you have a candidate(s), please contact the chapter's secretary, Red Hunt by phone at 707-664-8398 or our High Priest John Monahan by email @ twowillowjdn@gmail.com, by Monday, March 12th. You are also encouraged just to visit us on the conferral date. We'd appreciate all you companions to join us for an evening of fellowship.

John.Monahan
(707) 319-7593

WOODLAND CHAPTER FESTIVAL

The four Capitular Degrees will be offered at the Blue Lodge in Woodland on March 24th -- 228 Palm Ave, Woodland, CA 95695-2844. Coffee and donuts at 8:00 am, Degrees start at 9:00 am. Sacramento Chapter #3 will confer the Mark Master; Delta Chapter #27 will confer the Past Mster and Most Excellent Master Degrees; and Woodland Chapter #46 will confer the Royal Arch.

GOLDEN STATE RESEARCH CHAPTER



Companions,

I hope when you receive this message, you are in good spirits, in good health and have had a wonderful Christmas season. 2018 is now here and January is the month that many of our chapters have had their installation of officers. Let's all do our best to support our chapters and attend the installation to show our support for the incoming slate of officers. They too will need your support in order to perform their duties for our institutions.

For all who are not aware, our grand chapter officially has a new Grand Secretary. Let us all congratulate our

new Grand Secretary, past Grand High Priest, Most Excellent Philip Hardiman, KYGCH, for his appointment to the office. I've had the privilege and honor to work with ME Phil and I am confident that he will do a great job and help take our Grand Chapter to the next level. In January, our Grand Secretary's office will move to Sacramento, CA. and instructions will be sent to the secretaries and recorders of the new address.

With the upcoming installation, I want share with you the charge from the Chapter Installation ceremony that directed all members of the chapter:

You have heard the Officers who have just been installed assume a solemn, spoken vow to perform their duties to the best of their abilities. You believe in the sincerity of that vow. But these officers have the right to believe that you too have assumed an obligation, no less real because it is unspoken. They have a right to believe that when you chose them to lead and serve you, you pledged them your strong and faithful support. Without you they can do little or nothing; with you they can accomplish great things for your Chapter, for the Royal Arch and for all of Masonry in your community.

In order for our institution to be successful and grow, not only the officers but also the members will need to take an active part. If all of us, place on our calendars, attend at least 3 chapter meetings (25%) this year, our chapter will become stronger. Remember that: *“without you, they can do little or nothing; with you, they can accomplish great things”.*

In closing, please keep a prayer in your heart for all the people affected by the recent fire storm in in Southern California. California has been hit hard with wild fires this year, both in Northern and now in Southern California so let us all keep those affected by these horrible events in our prayers.

“Be safe and I hope I can see you in my travels”.

Fraternally,

REC Anthony “Tony” Yuson, KYCH
High Priest, Golden State Research
Chapter

SECRETARY ESSENTIALS

Workshops will be offered at Grand Sessions this year for Secretaries and Recorders. Of great interest to many of you will be the opportunity to learn about the Masonic Membership Solutions used to maintain membership data for local bodies. See the Grand Sessions Registration document at the end of this newsletter for details.

Secretaries new and old: near the end of this newsletter you will find a two-page document that serves as guidelines for Secretaries – especially new ones.

Another good source of information for the Secretary can be found in the Grand Chapter Forms and Documents folder, called Chapter Secretary Desktop Procedures, at:

<http://www.yorkriteusa.org/cagyr/forms/Chapter/>

If you are prompted for a username and/or password, call your Inspector, or anyone in the CONTACTS section below.

GRAND SESSIONS 2018

Dates for the 2018 California Grand York Rite

Monday, May 21, 2018 – Grand Council

**Tuesday, May 22, 2018 – Grand
Commandery**

**Wednesday, May 23, 2018 – Grand
Chapter**

A copy of the flyer announcing the change to the Wyndham Hotel in Visalia, and showing future years as well, is included at the back of this newsletter. Behind that flyer you will find the Registration Document for Grand Sessions in 2018.

Also note the flyer appended to this newsletter announcing the AMD In-gathering on Saturday, the 19th, in Bakersfield, at the Masonic Temple.

Finally, there are Secretary/Recorder Workshops being offered this year on Saturday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, at 1:30pm. Try to make at least one of them. You will have an opportunity at these Workshops to learn about the database system used by Commandery – Masonic Membership Solutions (MMS). Grand Commandery has established a pilot program to allow local Recorders to update this database directly themselves. To be included among this group of Recorders it is essential that you attend a Workshop and receive the necessary training!

ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD

It is a requirement of the Constitution that all High Priests receive this Order. Altogether, 22 candidates received this Order in the afternoon of May 23rd 2017. If you are a newly elected or installed High Priest, or a Past High Priest who has not yet received the order, you should plan to do so at the Grand Chapter Convocation on May 23rd next year, at 2:00 pm in the afternoon. See the application below in the document labeled SECRETARY ESSENTIALS.

GRAND CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIPS

For further info about Scholarships, go to the following website:

<http://www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org/royalarch/rara.html>

The Masonic Family has a large number of scholarships available to our youth, but how many of those in need of assistance really "KNOW" they are available?

California Royal Arch \$1,000 Scholarship requirements:

A member of the Masonic Family
(ie: _Rainbow, Jobs Daughter or Demolay)
A US Citizen
A California Resident
A 3.0 Grade Point Average
Enrolled or Accepted at an
Educational Institution

Deadline to apply for the 2018 Scholarship Program will be published in January 2018. Scholarship requirements will remain the same. Early submissions

can be forwarded to the Office of the Grand Chapter Secretary at

Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons
 Attn: Grand Secretary
 11428 East Artesia Blvd. – Suite 13
 Artesia, CA 90701-3872
 Telephone: (562) 924-6500
 E-mail: FDB.Scholarship@gmail.com

Once chosen, the award of \$1,000 is renewable for a total of 4 years, as long as the requirements are maintained. Do you know a Rainbow Girl, Job's Daughter or DeMolay that could benefit by knowing this information? What are you waiting for - make that call!



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 -- \$75.00 plus tax and shipping, for sizes 34 to 49 in short, regular and tall; and \$87.00 plus tax and shipping for sizes 50 to 60, also in short, regular, and tall. Purple Jackets are little more expensive at \$95.00 for the smaller and \$107.00 for the larger. Also available are Men's and ladies' vests, tuxedos and shirts, pins, patches, and flags, and OES T-Shirts. Contact Max Luy at (510) 502-3224; or at his website: www.mpenterprises.weebly.com; or directly to his email at maxluy@hotmail.com.

ENCOMPASSER

The **October 2017** edition of the **Encompasser** is now available at the following website, as is the January 2018 edition. Our apologies for the late transmission and availability, but the move of the Grand York Rite Office from Artesia to Sacramento was very time-consuming and prevented a more timely mailing. Please note that the October edition was the last hard-copy edition – all future editions will be digital. If you must have hard-copy, please call the Grand Secretary's office at the contact numbers listed below.

http://www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org/encompasser_issues.html

OR

Go to <http://www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org> and click on The Encompasser on the left of the top toolbar.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S CALENDAR
JANUARY 2018 TO MAY 2018

Date	Event	Location
Feb 9	3-Way Reception	Santa Rosa
Feb 17	3-Way Reception	San Diego
Feb 24	YR College & KYCH	Auburn
Mar 9-10	Officers' Conference	Visalia
Apr 19-21	Grand Chapter	New Mexico
Apr 22-May 5	Grand Chapter Trip	Canceled
May 19	AMD Ingathering	Bakersfield Masonic Temple
May 19-24	Grand York Rite	Visalia

If you would like to attend any of these events and need to know particulars about where and when and cost, please call any of the contact numbers below, or go to the Grand York Rite website calendar at:

<http://www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org/royalarch/ghpcalendar.html>

GRAND CHAPTER CONTACT INFORMATION

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GOLDEN STATE CHAPTER OF RESEARCH Website:

WWW.GOLDENSTATECHAPTER.ORG

GRAND SESSIONS, FORMS & SCHEDULES Website:

WWW.CA-GYRS.ORG

SECRETARY ESSENTIALS

Forms and Documents you will need are located at the Grand York Rite website, which is: www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org.

Scroll down and click on "York Rite Forms and Documents"

Then click on Grand Chapter logo.

A window opens where you enter the userid, which is "cagyr" and the password, which is "brio"

Scroll down to Officers Manual, which has info for the Secretary, and print that out. Priorities are as follows:

1. **Membership control** -- Especially important is the very last item, "Royal Arch Monthly Report." If you fill this out each month, whenever you encounter changes to the membership, you will find it much easier at the end of the year to produce the year-end report, which is used to compute the amount of per capita the Chapter needs to pay. That payment is due by Jan 15th each year. Important changes to your membership include new members, demits, remits and deaths. Maintain e-mail addresses for members and you can easily then forward the monthly newsletter, The WORKMAN, to them.
2. **Per Capita** -- The Per Capita payment, due each Jan 15th, does not require action by the Chapter to be paid. You will need good, up-to-date membership data in order to compute the end-of-year number of active members that is crucial to computing your per capita payment. Without good data you will most likely overpay your per capita requirement. It is sensible to wait until the first of the new year to begin your process. It is also sensible, if you have access to the Grand Lodge database, to check each member to see if they are still alive
3. **Insurance** -- The Insurance payment, due each July 15th, does not require action by the Chapter to be paid. You will be billed for the payment by the Grand Secretary.
4. **Lodge Book of Marks** – Maintain this up-to-date, or perhaps arrange for a PHP to take on the responsibility of maintaining.
5. **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).

6. **Grand Chapter** – Before the May meeting, remind the Dais officers they are responsible to attend, and arrange a stipend if your Chapter can afford it. Remind members who expect to attend to be sure to take their dues cards. If Dais Officers cannot attend, they may issue a proxy, or the Chapter may elect a representative. The appropriate forms can be obtained on the Grand York Rite website: Scroll to "Elected Representative and Proxy Credentials."
7. **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 below with them and send to the Grand Secretary:

ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD PETITION

Chapter No. _____

High Priests and Past High Priests, who have not received the Order of High Priesthood, may complete the following petition for membership and submit it with the required fee of \$50.00 to the Chapter Recorder prior to February 15. - The Order will be conferred during Grand Sessions

Make check payable to: ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD

To the Grand Convention of Anointed High Priest of California:

Companion _____

First Middle Last

Address City State ZIP

Birth Date Office Tel # incl. area code Home Tel # incl. area code

I am a member of _____ Chapter No. ____

I (am the Elected)(am)(was) High Priest of _____ Chapter No. ____
Located at _____ having served during

Companion _____

Signature _____

For Grand Secretary's use only:

___ Life Membership - fee \$35.00. The below listed items were issued:

___ Bible

___ Honorary Membership - no fee. ___ Membership Card

___ By-laws

___/___/___ Date petition received. ___ History

___ Lapel Pin

___/___/___ Date initiated. ___ Certificate

The completed petition with fee must be in the Grand Secretary's Office, 801 Elm Avenue, Long Beach, CA90813 no later than April 1. If not, the certificate may not be prepared for presentation during the next conferral of the Order.

Page 1 of 1 R.A. Form No. AP-7 (2004)



HOLINESS

TO THE LORD

5th Royal Arch District, Department 1A

*Petaluma Chapter # 22 / Santa Rosa Chapter #45
Marin Chapter # 102 / Sebastopol Chapter #117*

&

*Redwood Empire Council #46 Cryptic Masons
Santa Rosa Commandery #14 Knights Templar*

Cordially Invites You, Your Family & Friends to attend our:

**THREE-WAY
GRAND YORK RITE RECEPTION**

Honoring

Randy R. Downey – Most Excellent Grand High Priest
Lee P. Whelan – Most Illustrious Grand Master
Thomas N. Thomas – Right Eminent Grand Commander

Friday, February 9th, 2018
Santa Rosa Masonic Lodge
855 7th Street, Santa Rosa, CA. 95404
Social Hour @ 5:30 pm, Dinner @ 6:30 pm
Program to follow

Please make your reservations with Gregory McKenna
Phone: (707) 333-4219 / Email: artfulclimber@gmail.com
Cost for dinner: \$20.00

Checks Payable to Santa Rosa Royal Arch #45

Please RSVP by Friday, February 2nd, 2018

We look forward to seeing you there!!

**2018
Official California
Allied Masonic Degrees Ingathering**

*May 19, 2018
Bakersfield Masonic Temple
1920 18th St. Bakersfield, California 93301*

Degrees

The Scarlet Cord Royal Ark Mariner
2nd Grade: Lector

Program

1:30 pm to 2:30 pm: Open for Registration

Registration.....\$3.00

Degree Fees: \$15 per degree; includes degree card, certificate and lapel pin.

3:00 pm: exemplify degrees

5:30 pm: Ye Ancient Order of Corks will be available for all who attend the Festive board Feast. There is no extra charge for those that have received the degree and coin at our Ingathering; a \$25 fee for those that have not received the Cork Degree at our Ingathering.

6:00 pm: Festive Board Feast; Reservations only, no tickets sold at the door. Dress: AMD or dark coat and tie.

Registration form: www.alliedmasonicdegrees-calif.org

Degrees exemplified by Western Council No. 41

Grand Sessions 2018, 2019, and 2020
Come join us as we move up the road



Wyndham Visalia
9000 W Airport Drive,
Visalia, California 93277



May 19 thru 23, 2018

May 18 thru 22, 2019

May 16 thru 20, 2020

Would you like to arrange a trip for your



Chapter



Council



Commandery

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- Make all travel arrangements
- Market the trip
- Handle all bookings
- Answer all questions
- Take care of billings and payments
- Deliver travel documents
- Escort you on your trip
- Deal with tour/cruise/hotel personnel
- Handle all issues that may arise

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Co-Owner / Travel Consultant
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San Jose, CA 95129
(408) 674-8341
randy@starandcompass.com

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2018 Grand York Rite Sessions May 19th to May 23rd, 2018 – 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: **RAM #** _____ **CM #** _____ **KT #** _____
Please list the Number(s) that you are a member of

*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 number of Meals/Events you are requesting	Price	Total
Sat - 19 th	8:00 AM	Knight Templar Ritual Competition __	*R.O.*	
	1:30 PM	Secretary / Recorder Workshop __	*R.O.*	
	2:30 PM	AMD Ingathering and Festive Board Dinner register at: http://alliedmasonicdegrees-calif.org		
Sun - 20 th	8:00 AM	GYR CA Corporation Annual Meeting __	*R.O.*	
	11:00 AM	Battalion & Belles Brunch Executive Breakfast Buffet __	\$24.00	
	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 __ Pasta Primavera __	\$40.00	
Mon – 21 st	7:00 AM	Grand Council Breakfast: (Open to all Registrants) Wyndham Buffet __	\$18.00	
	12:00 PM	CM Ladies Luncheon: Cobb Salad __ Special Dietary __	\$16.00	
	12:15 PM	Grand Council Luncheon: Southwestern Fiesta Buffet __ Special Dietary __	\$23.00	
	1:30 PM	Secretary / Recorder Workshop __	*R.O.*	
Tue – 22 nd	7:00 AM	Grand Commandery Breakfast (Open to all Registrants) Wyndham Buffet __	\$18.00	
	12:00 PM	KT Ladies Luncheon Orange Chicken __ Special Dietary __	\$22.00	
	12:15 PM	Grand Commandery Luncheon Traditional Meatloaf __ Special Dietary __	\$23.00	
	1:30 PM	Secretary / Recorder Workshop __	*R.O.*	
Wed – 23 rd	7:00 AM	Grand Chapter Breakfast: (Open to all Registrants) Wyndham Buffet __	\$18.00	
	12:15 PM	RAM Ladies and Grand Chapter Luncheon Herb Roasted Chicken __ Special Dietary __	\$23.00	
	1:30 PM	Secretary / Recorder Workshop __	*R.O.*	

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 if you based on your decision. There is a full meal description on the www.ca-gyrs.org website.

Check# _____ enclosed payable to **Grand York Rite of CA** or Invoice me via PayPal

Comments: _____

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

2018 Grand York Rite Sessions May 19th to May 23rd, 2018 – Visalia, CA

Please send page 1 of this form and payment to:

CA-GYRSPO Box 402 Penryn, CA 95663-0402

No reservation forms will be accepted after 05/10/18

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**

for your hotel reservation **before 04/10/18** Room rate: \$95.00 +taxes

Questions, contact the following below:

- **General Chairman: Brett MacDonald** chairman@ca-gyrs.org
 - **Executive Officer: Lee Whalen**, executiveofficer@ca-gyrs.org
 - **Meal/Event reservations: Dave Glass** reservations@ca-gyrs.org
- No refunds after May 09th, 2018 unless approved by the Grand York Rite Sessions Executive Committee.

More forms (including the Order of High Priesthood, Thrice Illustrious Master & Past Commanders Association), menus and schedule are available from www.ca-gyrs.org.

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.

Saturday:

"The Official CA Allied Masonic Degrees (AMD) Ingathering" will be held at the Bakersfield Masonic Temple, 1920 18th Street, Bakersfield (75 miles from the hotel). Events start at 2:30 pm and end with a Festive Board dinner at 6 pm. Please go to: <http://alliedmasonicdegrees-calif.org> to register.

Knight Templar Ritual Competition. Details of the Ritual Competition will come from the Inspector General. If you are participating, please mark it in the field

Secretary / Recorder Workshop. Meet our new Grand Secretary / Recorder. He will be going over forms, processes and the proposed online membership database. This is intended for all Secretary / Recorders and Dais Officers that want to understand the duties. The same material is covered on each session (Sat. Mon. Tue & Wed). Please mark on the day you will attend.

Sunday:

Grand York Rite California (GYR CA) Corporation Annual Meeting, 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."

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

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