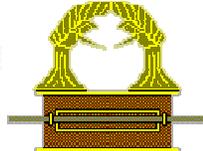




THE WORKMAN



Robert V. Wright, Jr., Grand High Priest

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of California

March 2013

Vol. IV No. 10

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GHP MESSAGE

Companions:

There is Walk for Autism on April 20th in Pasadena. I have signed up a team to participate in it. Everyone can go to the Web site and sign up to join me in the walk or make a donation. Go to the Autism Speaks Web site: <http://www.autismspeaks.org>. Click on the "Attend a Walk" button in the upper right corner. Click on "Search for Team" on the left side of the screen. You may have to scroll down to find it. In the blank space preceded by "Team Name" enter the words "Royal Arch Masons of California." Click on the SUBMIT button, and you should get an entry for

our team. Click on our Team Name, and then a list of all the Teams will show up. Scroll down to Royal Arch Masons. When you click on that, you will see near the top of the screen the phrase "[Join our Team](#)." Follow instructions, become a member of the Team, and make a donation! Please also take to heart the needs of those around the world who are benefited by the research that the General Grand Chapter RARA program supports. They include those with Central Auditory Processing Difficulties, Autism, and Hearing disorders. California has a new Chairman – my predecessor in office, MEC Bill Allen. See below his contact information, should your Chapter or your companions wish to contribute through him.

Please keep Pam and Eric Sandstrom in your prayers. We learned that on February 8th, Mark Sandstrom, Most Illustrious Past Grand Master of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, took his own life, for reasons not known. Mark served as MIPGM in the 2009-10 Cryptic Year. See the descriptive article and Memorial to him below.

Finally, remember to attend Grand Sessions in May, particularly Grand Chapter on May 20th. New High Priests and Past High Priests should attend and apply for conferral of the Order of High Priesthood in the afternoon of the 20th. See the Grand Sessions website for further information: <http://www.ca-gyrs.org>.

Fraternally, **Bob Wright, Grand High Priest**

**New
RARA
Chairman
For the State!**

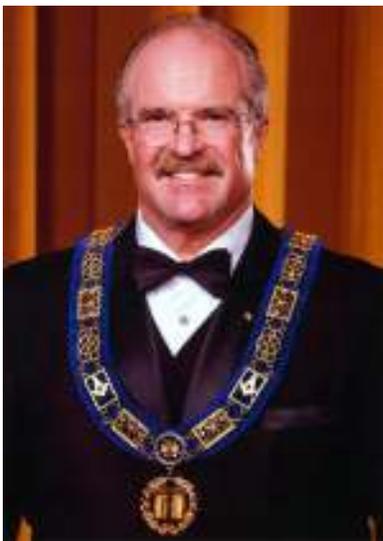
**Most Excellent
James W. “Bill” Allen**

**Send Contributions to:
1644 Cambria Pl
Escondido 92029-5538**

**Or contact for further information:
4billallen@cox.net
(760) 716-2966**

**WHO PASTORS THE PASTOR?
Or WHY, MARK, WHY?
By Phil Hardiman, PGHP**

*Job 14: 5 Seeing his days are determined , the
number of his months are with thee, thou hast
appointed his bounds that he cannot pass ; 6 Turn
from him, that he may rest , till he shall accomplish
... his day.*



Or more specifically, who is available to give
pastoral service and counseling to a Pastor who may

be troubled or in need? We all get busy and wrapped up in the difficulties and troubles of our own lives that we easily lose sight of the troubles of others. Furthermore, we know that our Pastors and Priests are in that profession because they are called to serve others who are troubled and in need. And so we overlook the fact that sometimes they, too, are wounded by “the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune,” as Shakespeare put it.

And so trying to understand the suicide of Mark Sandstrom on February 8th is doubly difficult. How can we possibly understand such tragic and extreme action by such a marvelous exponent of Brotherly Love? In his message as Grand Chaplain in October of 2006 to those of us assembled at the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge that year, he was explicit about his belief in that tenet as our *principal* tenet. You can read his entire message on page 121 of the published Proceedings for 2006. As a Pastor he provided grief counseling to families of some in his parsonage who took their own life. He, therefore, knew the intensity of the grief suffered by those left behind. So he must have known how *we* would suffer – at the confusion, both fraternal and religious, by his action. So Why, Mark, Why?

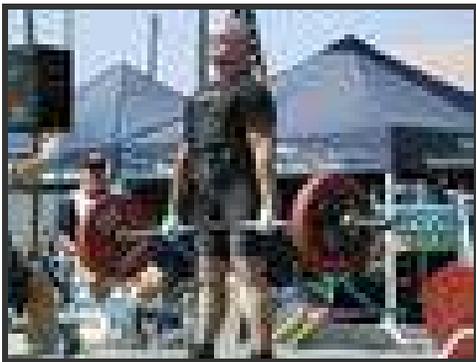
I first met Mark when he was an officer in the progressive line for the Grand Council and I in the Grand Chapter. We served together in the East, finally, in 2009-10, and traveled occasionally, with Bill Robertson of the Grand Commandery, to speak at various functions around the State. At one such event he announced that his wife, Pam, told him “not to preach!” So he wouldn’t – he liked to talk most about his days as a DeMolay. But then Bill would get up and give a sermon – so we had a preacher who didn’t preach, and a lay person who did!

But then during the year he developed a case of cellulitis on his scalp – very painful in his case, though the regimen of anti-biotics he took seemed to cure him. But perhaps the staph infection remained and cut deeper into his system. Furthermore, “Persons who are at a higher risk for cellulitis are those who have a severe underlying disease ..., are taking steroid medications, In addition, ... skin wounds, and recent surgery can put a person at a higher risk for cellulitis.” (Source: thefreedictionary.com/cellulitis). In Mark’s case, he

was proud of his tattoo – did that skin wound cause, or contribute to, the cellulitis?



Although I do not know this for a fact, it seems reasonable that, as a body-builder, Mark used some over-the-counter supplements to increase his body mass. He was quite proud of his “powerlifting,” and, in fact, took first place in his age class (55-59) just 15 months ago at the International Powerlifting Federation competition. He ‘dead-lifted’ 621 pounds! Quite remarkable!



Perhaps he fell prey to, or was overcome by, bio-chemical forces related to the use of those supplements. Though it affects teenagers most frequently, suicide is a particular danger for those who use such supplements and then stop “cold turkey” because they do not like the side effects.

We will never know for sure what complications entered Mark’s life a few weeks ago. As for me, I am certain, knowing Mark as the sweet, gentle servant that he was, that there was no transgression by him against society or against the fraternity that would have led to depression or despondency and been a possible cause of the suicide. I am guessing, of course, sort of “reading the tea leaves,” but I suspect one or two causes of this tragedy: 1) either the infection and pain returned and obliterated his

normal thought processes; or 2) the bio-chemistry of his body was so fouled up by continued use of supplements that the same result occurred. Or maybe it was caused by a combination of both. I am certain also, that I will warn my loved ones about the potential dangers associated with injuries, tattoos, and body-building supplements.

If I am correct in these suppositions, then there was nothing we, nor he, could do to prevent the tragedy. Mark knew he could ask for help from his brethren, but if his mind was compromised by bio-chemical confusion, he must have over-looked the options open to him. And so we can only take comfort from the knowledge that Mark is with his Maker, and that someday we will see him again, and he will answer for us then: Why, Mark, Why? “Until then, dear brother, until then ... farewell.”

The Golden Redwood Priory, Knights of the York Cross of Honor, has established a fund to be given to Mark’s family to help them through this time, and as a tribute of our affection for Mark and for them. Send any contributions you may wish to make to: Golden Redwood Priory No. 82, c/o David Sokol, Registrar, 7076 Riata Drive, Redding, CA 96002-9719.

Thank You in advance for your generosity, and for your remembrance of Mark and his many contributions over the decades to Freemasonry. In addition to his collegiate work as a Master of Divinity at Claremont, he served Covina Christian Church for 20 years. He served DeMolay as Master Councilor and was later awarded the Chevalier Degree and the Legion of Honor. He was raised in Hemet in 1980, served as Master in 1995 and was granted the Hiram Award in 1998. He presided over the remaining York Rite bodies from 1997 through 2001, was inducted into L. A. Priory in 2003, and elevated to the Knight York Grand Cross of Honor in 2009. He was a member of numerous other Masonic organizations, including the Scottish Rite, the Shrine, the Royal Order of Scotland, Allied Masonic Degrees, and the Red Cross of Constantine; and of several masonic research bodies. His Masonic Career reached its peak when he served as Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of California in 2009-10.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA YORK RITE ASSOCIATION

Congratulations to all the incoming High Priests, Illustrious Masters, and Commanders for the 2013 year. All the installations are behind us and it is time to begin preparing for the festivals in August and November. The Northern California York Rite Association has set the dates for the Chapter and Council Degrees to again be the third weekend in August. The Mark and Past Master Degree will be on Friday, August 16, 2013 with the Most Excellent Master and the Royal Arch Degrees on Saturday, August 17, 2013. The Royal and Select Master Degrees will also be done on the same Saturday. The Commandery Orders will be given Saturday, November 9, 2013. See below for the that gives details about the events.

Following last year's festivals it has been decided to make a few changes to the support staff that assists putting the degrees and orders on. Many of the scene changes were done by the cast. It is felt that a more efficient way to conduct this process would be to have a group of Companion Knights trained in nothing but prop placement and scene changes. It would provide a more professional appearance to the degrees and orders and allow the cast to focus primarily on floor work and ritual. At this time we are seeking Companion Knights that may not wish to participate in a cast part but might like to be part of the staging crew. One way to accomplish this is to have each Chapter, Council, and Commandery provide their own crew for the degree or order they are conferring. Another way is to have a crew assembled from all available bodies that can function for all the degrees and orders. Over the next couple of months we explore the benefits and drawbacks of each of these ideas.

At the 2012 Commandery festival in November the Order of Malta was conferred in Short Form by Eureka Commandery #35. Eureka Commandery has agreed to give up doing the Order of Malta and allow its members to concentrate on doing the Council of Cryptic Masons degrees. Pacific Council confers the Royal and Select Master degrees and thinks it would be best to concentrate their efforts in that direction. Knowing this and wanting to upgrade the Commandery Orders, Butte Commandery #5 has agreed to learn and confer the Order of Malta in Long

Form. Butte Commandery is starting from scratch and will require much assistance in acquiring the necessary paraphernalia to enable them to complete this task and be ready to confer the Order of Malta at the November festival. Any assistance from other Commanderies in procuring the necessary paraphernalia would be greatly appreciated.

Another addition to the festival will be a printed program listing all the cast members for the different degrees and orders. This was not available at the 2012 festival because not every Degree Team provided a cast list prior to the event. To avoid not having a program for this year's festival, a cast list will be required from all York Rite Bodies no later than July 15, 2013. The necessary forms will be distributed to all Chapters, Councils, and Commanderies. The inspectors have asked that dates for all practices be submitted to them so they are able to certify each degree team prior to the festival date. The officer's coach for each body will be responsible for informing the inspectors of these dates.

Richard Jolley President
Robert Morrison Secretary
Email dick_jolley@yahoo.com
Email bpmorrison@sbcglobal.net

THE ROYAL ARCH PATH

Several High Priests have asked MEC Phil Hardiman for copies of his booklet The Royal Arch Path for the purpose of giving them to newly exalted companions. So MEC Phil is going to order more (there are no other copies available at this time) and would like to know if other Chapters or High Priests would like a supply. Please contact him by February 18th, so he knows how many to order, either at (916) 712-4814 or at philipandnancy@aol.com.

ROYAL ARCH HISTORY

Of particular interest to all Companions and Sir Knights is the new addition to the History of the Royal Arch – Volume 4 is now available, which takes the history through 1996. This is the supplement to the original 3 Volume set prepared by Everett R. Turnbull and Ray V. Denslow. The 4th Volume can be purchased for \$25. Volumes 1, 2, 3 & 4 of the History of Royal Arch Masonry have been reprinted. These books are hardbound and

approximately 500 pages each. The cost is \$ 100.00 for all 4 books plus \$ 15.00 shipping and handling in USA. Foreign shipping could cost more. Payment by check or credit card. Contact the General Grand Secretary to order books.
ramintl@sbcglobal.net

RAM INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

As you know, our Grand Chapter is associated with the General Grand Chapter RAM International. The General Grand Chapter is now publishing a newsletter with international scope. Issue number 17 for February 2013 has been forwarded to local Chapter officers. Please share as appropriate with your companions. In the new format, scroll down in the message to find the state-specific entries for California.

Prior editions from March 2012 can also be found under the Library tab at the Research Chapter website: www.goldenstatechapter.org

GRAND CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIPS

For info about 2012 Scholarships, go to the following website:

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

If you have the resources, please consider making a significant donation on behalf of our Masonic Youth. Send any excess cash (!) to the Grand Chapter Scholarship Program at 11428 E. Artesia Blvd, #13, Artesia, CA 90701-3872

Remember that all donations to the Scholarship Program are Tax Deductible, so keep this in mind as you plan your annual giving and when you pay your dues.

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) 527-5728, or cell: (510) 502-3224; or email at maxluy@hotmail.com.

ENCOMPASSER

The **January 2013** edition of the Encompasser is now available on the website. Go to <http://www.yorkriteofcalifornia.org> and click on The Encompasser on the left hand toolbar.

You can help us control cost by letting us know you are willing to take the Encompasser by email only.

Check out the new format available – you can now read the Encompasser online! No need to even print it out. Many thanks to our web-master, Excellent Companion Richard Thornton, for his efforts in applying this technology to our needs!

GOLDEN STATE RESEARCH CHAPTER

The website located at www.goldenstatechapter.org now contains a copy of the 2010 and 2011 Grand Orations booklets. Also included is a copy of "The Royal Arch Path," by MEC Phil Hardiman, KYGCH. At the May convocation, the Chapter approved the publication of the 2012 Grand Orations. This publication has now been produced and also contains the Vesper Service and West Coast Easter Observance messages given by Tom Boles, the outgoing Grand Prelate.

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GRAND HIGH PRIEST ITENERARY

FEBRUARY		
4 th	Installation	Oxnard #86
MARCH		
8-10 th	Grand Officers Meeting	Bakersfield
23 rd	Rainbow Grand Sessions	Fresno
APRIL		
13 th	Reception	Redding
19 th	Grand Sessions	New Mexico
MAY		
11 th	Grand Sessions	Utah
18 th – 22 nd	Grand Sessions	Bakersfield
20 th	Grand Chapter	
21 st	Grand Council	Bakersfield
22 nd	Grand Commandery	Bakersfield

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GOLDEN STATE CHAPTER OF RESEARCH Website

WWW.GOLDENSTATECHAPTER.ORG

THIRD ANNUAL WEST COAST EASTER OBSERVANCE MARCH 29 - 31, 2013

If you are a Companion AND a Sir Knight or a Beauceant member AND live on the west coast, you should consider attending the Third Annual *West Coast Easter Observance!*

The Committee has arranged rooms and is working hard to make sure your stay at the Radisson Hotel at USC is enjoyable. In late March and early April, the average high for the day is about 73 degrees, and the average low at night is about 54 degrees. In addition, the average relative humidity is about 84 percent. A light wrap is recommended for evenings out.

The Easter Observance will be held at the historic Shrine Auditorium just blocks from the hotel.

Attire: Formal Banquet – Sir Knights in uniform (no chapeaus or swords), and ladies in evening gowns.

Easter Observance – Sir Knights in uniform (with chapeaus, no swords), and ladies in church attire.

Hotel Information: Radisson Hotel at USC, 3540 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA 90007.
Reservations: (800) 395-7046; Front Desk: (213) 748-4141 and Fax: (213) 746-3255. Tell them you are with the *Grand Encampment Knights Templar*.

Here is the link to make online reservations:
<http://www.radisson-midtown.com>.

See below for further registration details.

WEST COAST EASTER OBSERVANCE 2013

c/o 23015 Ashwood

Lake Forest, CA 92630-5409

Tel: (949) 829-6802 - lderbyhawk@aol.com

REGISTRATION

Easter Package is available at \$100.00 per person

(Includes: Meals, Parking Fees, Registration Fees and Tour
of the Endeavor Space Shuttle)

PLEASE PRINT NAMES OF THOSE ATTENDING

_____ @ \$100.00

_____ @ \$100.00

_____ @ \$100.00

Please include your Name, Address, Telephone and Email

Total \$ _____

Please send enclosed form with your check payable to: **“Grand
Commandery Easter Observance”**

(Mail to address provided above)

YOUR TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE HOTEL ON FRIDAY
MORNING in the HOSPITALITY ROOM

Room Rates: \$95.00 + tax

When making room reservations, inform them you are with: “Grand
Encampment Knights Templar”

For Hotel Reservations: **Radisson Hotel at USC**

3540 S Figueroa St, Los Angeles, CA 90007

(800) 395-7046 - or online at:

<http://www.radisson-midtown.com>

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA YORK RITE ASSOCIATION

Grand York Rite Reception
HONORING

Robert Wright, GHP, Raymond Godeke, MIGM, "Bud" Ramsey, GC

Date: Saturday, April 13, 2013

Location: Milton and Naomi Abbott's Garden Yard
Address: 2974 Eagle Lane
McKinleyville, CA 95519-8055

Time: Social 1:00 pm
Dinner 3:00 pm - Dinner Cost \$20.00
Salmon - Tri-tip - BBQ Oysters

Attendees Companions, Knights, Ladies and Guests

Reception Reservations: Milton Abbott, PGC
2974 Eagle Lane
McKinleyville, Ca 95519-8055
Phone: 707-839-4102

Contact Person: Myron Tisdel
Phone: 530-474-4669

Hotel: Quality Inn
1209 Fourth Street
Eureka 95501
Phone: 707 443 1601

Dress: Dressy Casual

~ ~ ~ Chico ~ ~ Eureka ~ ~ Oroville ~ ~ Quincy ~ ~ Red Bluff ~ ~ Redding ~ ~ ~



Northern California York Rite Association 2013 York Rite Festival

Red Bluff Masonic Temple 822 Main St Red Bluff CA

CHAPTER DEGREES

Friday August 16th 2013 6:00 PM

Mark Master and Past Master Degrees

Saturday August 17th 2013 8:00 AM

Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Degrees

Lunch 12:00 PM Saturday: Cost \$10.00

Menu; Sandwiches, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Beverage

COUNCIL DEGREES

Saturday August 17th 2013 1:00 PM

Royal Master and Select Master Degrees

Candidate Fee \$15.00 (Includes both Chapter and Council Degrees)

Commandery Orders

Saturday, November 9, 2013 8:00 AM

Red Cross, Full Form Malta, Order of the Temple

Candidate Fee \$10.00

Lunch served between Malta and The Order of the Temple: Cost \$10.00

Menu: Sandwiches, Potato Salad, Beans, Beverage

Information Contact Person: Richard Jolley (530) 283-1492 emaiddick_jolley@yahoo.com

Reservations: Robert Morrison (530) 345-5958 [email bpmorrison@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bpmorrison@sbcglobal.net)

Please make checks payable to: Red Bluff Chapter #40 RAM

