



The Most Worshipful Sons of Light Grand Lodge
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons

Jurisdiction of California, Inc. – Est. 1943

Hon. Omar H. Scaife, 33° - Most Worshipful Grand Master



Tuesday, January 1, 2019

To: Symbolic Blue Lodges, Chapters of the Order, all Concordant and Appendant Bodies working under The Most Worshipful Sons of Light Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M., Jurisdiction of California, Inc.

RE: 2018-2019 JURISDICTION DIRECTION & FOCUS

Dear Valued Member(s) of this Organization:

First, Happy New Year! So that you can be an informed member; this communication is being sent, and ordered read in all meetings, to provide you with information relating to the direction and focus of this jurisdiction, for the 2018-2019 Masonic term.

Topics to be discussed in this communication are:

1. Masters / Matrons Council
2. Officer School of Instructions
3. Fundraising / Charitable Efforts
4. Business Directory
5. Ritualistic Focus
6. Meeting Formalities
7. Proper Candidate Intake & Dismissal Procedures
8. Grand Department Directives
9. Charters and Operation Requirements
10. 2020 Inspector General / Roses
11. Lifetime Membership(s)

MASTERS / MATRONS COUNCIL

In an effort to promote proper training, education and support to presiding officers of Symbolic Blue Lodges and Chapters of the Order, the Masters and Past Masters Council and Matrons & Patrons Council and have been restructured.



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Beginning Sunday, January 6, 2019, and every quarter thereafter, all local council meetings will be comprised **ONLY** of Worshipful Masters, Past Worshipful Masters, Worthy Matrons, and Past Worthy Matrons!

As of Sunday, January 6, 2019 all presiding Worshipful Masters, Past Worshipful Masters, presiding Worthy Matrons, and Past Worthy Matrons **MUST** be financed members of some local council. All presiding Worshipful Masters and presiding Worthy Matrons are **required** to attend at least 50% of the following scheduled meetings:

- Sunday, January 6, 2019
- Sunday, April 7, 2019,
- Sunday, July 7, 2019,
- Sunday, October 6, 2019

Past Worshipful Masters and Past Worthy Matrons **may** attend the above meetings but still **must** be financed in a Council whether they attend or not. To ensure leaders have proper training, failure of a presiding Worshipful Master or presiding Worthy Matron to attend at least 50% of the above meetings may be subjected to temporary removal of office until such time as compliance is made.

OFFICER SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTIONS

The Officer School of Instruction, governed by the Masters and Past Masters and Matrons & Patrons Grand Councils, administered by the local Masters and Past Masters and Matrons & Patrons Councils will be offered on the following schedule:

- Sunday, February 3, 2019
- Sunday, March 3, 2019
- Sunday, May 5, 2019
- Sunday, June 2, 2019
- Sunday, August 4, 2019
- September to be determined – Tentative Sunday, September 1st or 8th, 2019
- Sunday, November 3, 2019
- Sunday, December 1, 2019

The above dates are for the Southern area only. Northern area dates will be posted.



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Despite my rescission of edicts mandating attendance, it is my hope that you, as members desiring positions, see the importance of being properly trained prior to and subsequent of taking any position; in an effort to perform not only in compliance of establish rules and regulations but to the best of your abilities.

FUNDRAISING / CHARITABLE EFFORTS

The Masonic institution is a fraternal organization. As such, this means our focus when performing charity or raising funds should be an internal purpose. The performance of public charity by Masonic organization is a recent phenomenon to counter public scrutiny of private unknown lodge activities behind closed doors.

Public acts of charity are a secondary and **NOT** a primary function of Masonic Lodges and Chapters of the Order.

Charity begins at home, as you are unable to give if you are in need yourself. We have both members and facilities currently in need of our attention. The goal this year is the re-pavement of the Los Angeles Masonic Center parking lot. I am asking all Lodges and Chapters to get behind this goal with your financial support.

As such, there is a temporary moratorium on any and all 'outside' charitable or fundraising efforts. All charitable efforts made must focus on either helping those in need within our membership, or sustaining our infrastructure including our real properties and their much needed maintenance, improvements and repairs.

All fundraising activities must be documented by the completion of the Preliminary Purpose Statement Form that can be downloaded by visiting www.tmwsolgl.org. All forms are to be submitted to your respective Lodge / Chapter, etc., and to the Office of Most Worshipful Grand Master via hard mail (*address listed below*) or email to scaife.o@tmwsolgl.org.

We will attempt to incentivize those members / departments that donate specifically to this goal. Further information on this will be forthcoming.



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BUSINESS DIRECTORY

In an effort to promote member service it will be the goal of this administration to develop a list of those members whom provide a service or sell goods.

If you are a member entrepreneur with a service you provide or good you sell, please complete the Business Directory Form and submit to Sis. LaVon White in person or via email to lavone@gmail.com. The form can be downloaded by visiting our Facebook® group or www.tmwsolgl.org.

If you do not submit the form then do not complain that the organization is not trying to do anything to help or patronize your business!

RITUALISTIC FOCUS

Our theme this year is “**Getting Back to Basic!**”

There are members that are unable to perform basic lodge movements or properly identify Chapter Officers but are more than educated and informed on the time and location of the next party or the spreading of rumors or information of member’s personal lives. This is unacceptable and demonstrates a severe deterrence from the purposes of membership in this fraternal organization.

This year there will be a focus on basic ritual training. There will be Lodge, Chapter competitions, incentive for visitations to broaden member perspective and a push for memorization of necessary ritual sections. More information to follow regarding the ritual competitions.

The practice of finding any excuse not to attend meeting should be avoided. “Going Dark” or other such terms to mean not having a stated meeting, should not be the desired focus of the Craft or Chapter. As such, it will be expected that all Lodges and Chapters will have monthly meetings. This is simply to improve ourselves in the mysteries of the Order as is the purpose of membership.



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MEETING FORMALITIES

In conformity with the ritualistic focus of the jurisdiction, short cutting or an otherwise reduction of proper ritual is hereby prohibited. Long form openings, initiations, or other ceremonies, etc., are to be performed in full as outlined in your rituals. All members are required to attend their respective meetings in full uniform and regalia.

Meeting are scheduled for two (2) hours. Sometimes there is a necessity to end such meetings promptly due to additional meetings or other scheduled center events. However, the presiding officer is both fully aware of and in charge of the opening and closing of their meetings. Tapping your wrist, heavy breathing, pointing to the clock or other forms of 'reminding' the presiding officer to hurry to close their meeting is highly disrespectful.

If you have to leave or feel the meeting is going longer than you allocated time for, follow the proper form of approaching the altar and then leave quietly and by yourself.

VISITATION INCENTIVE

Visitation is a right of every Master Mason (*Right of Visitation*) and Eastern Star (*15th Landmark*). We will be looking at ways to offer incentives for members to visit Lodges / Chapters other than their own.

Visitation should be done with both the advance notice of both respective presiding officers. Being members of this organization, visitation should be encouraged not punished or otherwise turned into a negative. Members should see other perspectives and hear lectures from other points-of-view.



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PROPER CANDIDATE INTAKE & DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

It has come to my attention there are still discrepancies on how candidates are processed in Lodges & Chapters.

INTAKE PROCEDURES:

An applicant must complete a petition which is then read during a regular meeting only. There is NO voting on acceptance of an application. The presiding officer then immediately submits application to investigation committee that will report favorable or unfavorable during the next regular meeting only.

If unfavorable, the candidate can re-petition every 30 days. If favorable, motion is taken on the adoption of the investigation committee's report only, not the candidate.

Secret ballot is then taken on acceptance of the candidate. If clear, then candidate may be initiated immediately at same meeting or informed when their initiation will take place. If one black ball then presiding officer **may**, on their discretion, take another ballot. If two black balls then candidate is rejected with no discretion on taking another ballot. In all cases the candidate is notified in writing of the status of their petition.

In conformity with the 9th Landmark of the Order, appendant bodies are to ballot on all petitions despite their relationship to a Master Mason.

DISMISSAL PROCEDURES:

Once you list a member on any report as dropped and that report leaves your control and is submitted; whether received by the intended addressee or not, they are officially dropped as of that moment! This will require the member to be processed as a new member not requiring an initiation.

Once a demit is requested it must be granted and given immediately, if an in-person request, or within 30 days if written request under the following addition criteria:

1. The requestor owes no dues and is financed up to the date of the request, and



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2. The requestor is not currently facing charges or under a punishment such as suspension, etc.

No member can be simply removed from the roll because they failed to attend meetings. A member's whose dues are paid in full can remain a member of this organization indefinitely despite never attending a meeting.

CANDIDATE INITIATIONS / OBLIGATIONS:

In accordance to the ritualistic full form practice policy there must be absolutely **no** obligation only initiations. All candidates must be fully initiated in all degrees where they will take their obligations to be considered a full member of that degree.

The past erroneous practice of obligating a candidate and never fully initiating them is strictly prohibited as against the rules of Masonry.

PRORATION / COLLECTION OF FEES:

All candidates must be given a full disclosure of all fees due and payable at time of petition and again at time of initiation. This includes any and all dues, endowments, fees, etc. As an example: Informing a candidate that the fees for joining is \$100.00 then after they're initiation telling them now they owe dues of \$20.00. Let them know up front that they will be expected to remit payment of \$120.00.

It has also come to my attention that candidates are being charged for the full year despite joining at the 6-month mark or less. All fees charged must be prorated if candidate is not joining at the beginning of the full year.

GRAND DEPARTMENT DIRECTIVES

During a Grand Department Head meeting held on Wednesday, December 19, 2019, all Grand Departments were asked to provide an introduction letter to all new members as well as certificates to newly elected presiding officers.



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The introduction letter will serve to welcome new members and demonstrate their choice of joining our organization is both appreciated and acknowledged by Grand Department Heads. The certificates will serve as proof that they were duly elected to serve in the east should there ever be a question regarding their eligibility or qualification in this jurisdiction or any other they may choose to belong.

CHARTERS AND OPERATION REQUIREMENTS

In accordance with minimum quorum requirements the Charters for all Chapters of the Order reporting less than seven (7) members and all Lodges of the Craft reporting less than three (3) members are hereby and officially suspended!

A dispensation to operate with less than the minimum is an oxymoron and thus cannot be granted under the rules of Masonry.

2020 INSPECTOR GENERAL / ROSES

Simply dropping \$1,500.00 to be a Sovereign Grand Inspector General or \$1,300.00 to be a Rose of Seven Seals and not attending meetings, actively participating in the jurisdiction, having very little if any ritualistic knowledge of any preceding degrees, not having all your regalia, or asking (begging) for the degree, ends now! Elevating to an Inspector General is an honor; as is graduating a Rose of Seven Seals.

New objective criteria are being developed that may require a member to be a Shriner or Daughter of Sphinx for at least 2 years prior to being considered for the degrees. In addition, there will be a vote necessary by those respective departments during annual communication, on whom should receive those degrees.

The Inspector's and Roses 'class' as it was is being restructured as not to interfere with the rights and certifications of each respective department in 're-certifying' a member that has met proficiency in the preceding degree. The Office of Most Worshipful Grand Master reserves the right and is the final deciding factor on whom obtains either of these degrees. Further information on this will follow.



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LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP(S)

It has come to the attention of this administration there is a slight confusion on the proper handling of lifetime membership. Lifetime memberships should be granted from the local first, then requested from the Grand Department.

In a rare case when lifetime membership is granted from the Grand Department first, the receiving member must still pay local dues which are simply reduced by the amount now waived by the Grand Department.

Those members granted lifetime membership by the Office of Most Worshipful Grand Master are exempt from the payment of any and all dues period.

CONCLUSION

The change of outdated, erroneous or otherwise unmasonic practices is extremely difficult; especially for those currently benefitting from such breaches of fidelity.

The attempt in this focus is to redirect the attention of membership towards a positive and mutual benefit. We need to utilize the power of our collective numbers for the benefit of the whole. There are far too many organization that have a one-sided viewpoint where members are expected to give with no tangible result or truly measureable return on investment.

If you have any questions regarding this communication, please first contact your Worthy Patron, District Deputy Grand Master, or your respective Grand Department Head. If resolution to your question(s) is still not obtained, then by all means please contact me directly.

Fraternally,

Hon. Omar H. Scaife, 33°

Most Worshipful Grand Master / Grand Worthy Patron





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PRELIMINARY PURPOSE STATEMENT

Form Instructions:

1. Form to be completed by Local or Grand Ways & Means Committee and submit to that respective membership for consideration.
2. Local must submit completed form to their respective Grand Department & Office of Most Worshipful Grand Master within 72 hours of event completion (postmark if mailing).
3. Final report along with all receipts, contracts, etc., must be submitted to Office of Most Worshipful Grand Master within 30 days of event completion.
4. Grand Department's must comply with instructions 1-3.

Date of Event: ____ Proposed Date: ____/____/____ or ____ Event Held: ____/____/____

Report Type: ____ (Preliminary) Proposal ____ (Preliminary) 72hr ____ Final 30 day

Type of Event: ____ Fundraiser ____ General Program ____ Workshop ____ Other

Purpose of Event: ____ Charitable ____ Increase Treasury ____ Training ____ Other:

If 'Other' please provide details of why you are doing this event?

Please list anticipated and/or intended beneficiary of net proceeds:
(IE: Lodge/Chapter, Community, Specific Persons, etc. in all cases list specific names!)

1. _____

DEFINE SUCCESS / STATE GOAL:

(Based on listed purpose of event, what will constitute a successful event? IE: Making more income than expenses, having large attendance, providing community awareness, gaining membership, etc.)

REPORT OF INCOME:

Please list source of income whether ticket sales, donations, etc.

1. # of Tickets Sold _____ x Price per Ticket \$ _____ = _____
2. Registration Fees: # of Participants _____ x \$ _____ pp = _____
3. Total Donations Received _____ = _____
4. Sale of Goods (*Rituals, Regalia, Etc.*) _____ = _____
5. Vendor Income _____ = _____
6. Other Income Source: _____ = _____
7. **TOTAL INCOME FOR THE EVENT:** **(A)** _____



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REPORT OF EXPENSES:

Please list all expenses incurred on behalf of event.

- 1. Location / Venue Rental = _____
- 2. Food & Beverage = _____
- 3. Entertainment (*DJ, Musician, etc.*) = _____
- 4. Security (*Other Professional Services IE: Photographer*) = _____
- 5. Permits / Licenses (*Governmental Fees*) = _____
- 6. Decorations:
 - a. Napkins / Table Cloths / Chair Covers / Center Pieces = _____
 - b. Other: _____ = _____
- 7. Marketing:
 - a. Programs / Ticket Printing = _____
 - b. Flyers / Advertisement (*Radio, TV, Billboard, etc.*) = _____
 - c. Other: _____ = _____
- 8. Complimentary Ticket(s) Value (*Donated/Free Tickets*) = _____
- 9. Gifts / Awards:
 - a. Door Prizes = _____
 - b. Certificates / Plaques / Flowers / Corsages = _____
 - c. Other: _____ = _____
- 10. Transportation / Lodging:
 - a. Hotel Accommodations = _____
 - b. Car/Bus Rental = _____
 - c. Fuel / Toll = _____
 - d. Other: _____ = _____
- 11. **TOTAL EXPENSES FOR THE EVENT:** **(B)** _____

Total Event Income/Loss: **(A)** _____ - **(B)** _____ = _____

(Grand/Local) Department Name: _____

Submitted By: _____ Date: ____/____/____

The above is an accurate statement of income and expenses relating to the proposed or held event.

PPS-Form V.3 OS 05/01/2018



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BUSINESS DIRECTORY REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Business Mailing Address: _____

Website: _____

Office Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Type of Business: _____ Service _____ Goods / Entity Type: _____ SP _____ Corp

Is State or Local license required: _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, please give license number: _____ Agency: _____

What services / good are you promoting: _____

By completing this form you are agreeing to be listed in a jurisdiction directory of services. You understand and agree to be listed in this directory your business must be properly licensed and insured if applicable and/or required by law. You also understand that your listing will be removed if you fail to maintain any required license and/or insurance requirement(s). Any business disputes between you and a member customer must be handled privately between you and the member customer. *The Most Worshipful Sons of Light Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M., Jurisdiction of California, Inc., Queen Adah Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, Inc.*, its affiliates or subsidiaries **WILL NOT** intervene in any private business disputes.

Business Owner / Representative Signature

Date



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Queen Adah Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, Inc.



BACKGROUND REQUEST FORM

MAIL FORM & PAYMENT TO: P.O. BOX 1170 LOS ANGELES, CA 90001-1170

Application To: _____ No. _____
 (Name of Subordinate Lodge / Chapter)

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Full First Middle Last Name: _____

If NO Legal Middle Name / Social Security Number: _____ / _____ / _____

Other Name Used In Past Ten (10) Years: _____

Date of Birth: Month: _____ Day: _____ Year: _____

Email Address: _____

Pursuant to my application for membership into The Most Worshipful Sons of Light Grand Lodge, A.F.&A.M, Inc. or Queen Adah Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, Inc., my signature constitutes my agreement and understanding that this background check cannot be guaranteed of absolute accuracy as it is obtained electronically and maintained by a separate third-party entity not affiliated with The Most Worshipful Sons of Light Grand Lodge, A.F.&A.M, Inc. or Queen Adah Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, Inc.. All orders placed are final and NONE refundable.

Applicant Signature _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

BGCRFORM

OFFICE USE ONLY:

Background Check Request Form	Cleared _____ Ineligible _____
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Order Number: _____ Report Requested By: _____

\$25.00 Fee Paid: Cash ____ Check: # _____ Money Order: _____



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UPCOMING EVENTS

1. **Heroines of Jericho and Lady Knights Workshop.** January 19, 2019. Richmond Masonic Center, 1707 Truman Street, Richmond, CA 94801. Workshop will start at 9:00am. Lunch will be provided for \$5.00.
2. **39th Annual John V. Thornton Mid- Winter Conference.** March 13-19, 2019. Doubletree by Hilton- Cleveland East Beachwood Hotel. 3663 Park Drive, Beachwood, OH 44122. Phone: 216-464-5950. Registration: \$90.00. Airport Transportation: \$35.00 Roundtrip. Registration deadline: February 25, 2019. NO EXCEPTIONS!
3. **Grand Chapter Fellowship / Grand Lodge Ritual Competitions:** April 12-14, 2019 Piccadilly Inn Airport 5115 E McKinley Ave, Fresno, CA 93727 [\(559\) 375-7760](tel:5593757760). Room rates and other information to follow.
4. **Heroines of Jericho and Lady Knights Workshop.** April 27, 2019. Long Beach Masonic Center, 3308 Santa Fe Ave, Long Beach, CA 90810. Workshop will start at 9:00am. Lunch will be provided for \$5.00.
5. **Masters and Past Masters and Matrons and Patrons Grand Council Workshop:** May 16-19, 2019. Gateway Hotel Ontario, 2200 E. Holt Blvd. Ontario, CA 91761. Phone: 909-975-5000. Registration and room rates to be announced later.
6. **Annual Jurisdiction Picnic: (Tentative Date).** Saturday, June 22, 2019. 11:00am- 6:00pm. El Dorado Park. 7550 E. Spring St, Long Beach, CA 90815 Willow Grove Area.



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7. **St. John's Day Observance and Feast:** Sunday, June 23, 2019 @ 2:45 Tabernacle of Faith Baptist Church 11328 S. Central Ave L.A., CA 90059. Dinner will be served immediately after the service.
8. **Carson/ San Bernardino Fireworks Stand.** June 27- July 4, 2019. Specific dates per location to be announced later.
10. **Queen Adah Grand Youth Department Youth Grand Session:** July 17-21, 2019 Gateway Hotel Ontario 2200 E. Holt Blvd. Ontario, CA 91761 909-975-5000. Room Rate to be announced later.
11. **Annual Jurisdiction Picnic: (Tentative Date).** Saturday, August 31, 2019. 11:00am- 6:00pm. El Dorado Park 7550 E Spring St, Long Beach, CA 90815 Willow Grove Area.
12. **77th Annual Grand Communication:** October 20- 26, 2019. Gateway Hotel Ontario 2200 E. Holt Blvd. Ontario, CA 91761. Phone: 909- 975-5000. Room rates to be announced later.

Any questions regarding any information on this notice is to be directed to the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master
Ill. W.R. Hackney, 33° 310-977-3306.

All dates are subject to change at the discretion of the
Most Worshipful Grand Master / Grand Worthy Patron.