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California Supplement

Grand Commander's Message for November 2017

"Work for the Cause, not the Applause"

As we look forward to Thanksgiving at the end of this month, it is a great time for us to start to reflect on the many things that each of us have to be thankful for.

I personally have so much to be thankful for this year and I would like to share some of those things with you.

1. I am thankful for the opportunity to serve this year as your Grand Commander and be able to travel to the different Commanderys and get to know so many Sir Knights in California.
2. I am thankful for the Sir Knights of California and their extreme commitment to their Commanderys and the welfare of their fellow Sir Knights.
3. I am thankful for my family and all of the families that support their Sir Knights.

These are just a few of the many things that I am thankful for and I hope that you share some of these items as things that you are also thankful for.

California is blessed with an amazing group of Past Grand Commanders and in September we lost one of those amazing men. On September 22nd, we laid Paul McElwain to rest and, with approximately 35 Sir Knights present, we formed the lines and honored him with his final arch of steel. Paul will be greatly missed but will join the other angels who carefully watch over all of us.

Also in September, I was joined by Sir Knight Roger Ross, Grand Sword

Bearer, Sir Knight Andrew Prutsman, Grand Warder, and several other California Sir Knights as we attended the Prince Hall Grand Sessions in Ontario, California.

It was an amazing experience to see the two groups come together and be so united in their commitment to the Knights Templar.

It was my great pleasure to be given the great distinction as an Honorary Past Grand Commander of the Pacific Prince Hall Grand Commandery, along with Stephen Alderete and James Baum.

The work that is being done by these very committed Sir Knights is amazing and I look forward to the great things that we will continue to do together. We are hoping to have many of their Sir Knights attend our grand sessions this year.

I hope that you all have a relaxing Thanksgiving, spent with those near and dear to you, and time to reflect on the many things that you are thankful for.

Courteously,
 Tom



Pictured: Reginald L. Mitchell R.E. Grand Commander of Pacific Prince Hall (left) with Thomas N. Thomas R.E. Grand Commander of California (right)

Grand Commander's Calendar

November 2017

3-5	Southwest Department Conference	<i>Las Vegas</i>
11	Veteran's Day	
18	Orange County #36 Grand Commander's Reception	<i>Anaheim</i>
18	San Diego #25 Holiday Dinner Cruise	<i>San Diego</i>
23	Thanksgiving	
24-26	Northern California DeMolay Conclave	<i>Burlingame</i>

December 2017

12	San Diego #25 Installation of Officers	<i>San Diego</i>
25	Christmas	
31	New Year's Eve	