



GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE FOR AUGUST 2017

“Work for the Cause, not the Applause”

As I told you in my message last month it was my intention to defer the introduction of my appointee as Grand Sword Bearer until this month. Accordingly, It is my sincere honor to introduce my appointee to the Grand Commandery of California’s progressive line. On May 22, 2017, I had the pleasure to appoint Sir Knight Roger S. Ross as the Grand Sword Bearer.

Roger was raised as a Master Mason in AM Daylight Lodge No. 625 in 1995. In 2004, Roger chaired the Merger committee for his lodge as it consolidated with Anaheim Lodge No. 207. He served as Treasurer of his lodge for 7 years and Secretary for 5 years. He served for 5 years as a Board Member for Garden Grove Assembly of Rainbow for Girls, including 3 years as Chairman.

He has served in many Masonic leadership positions, including: Worthy Patron of Golden Harvest Chapter, High Priest of Orange County Royal Arch Masons, Grand Orator of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, Commander of El Bekal Legion of Honor, and Commander of Orange County Commandery. He served in the progressive line at El Bekal Shrine and was Potentate in 2014. He is a member of the Red Cross of Constantine, Inland Empire Conclave. Roger has received many Masonic honors such as the Hiram Award from Anaheim Lodge #207, the Meritorious Service Award from Orange County Chapter No. 73, the Ish Sodi Award from Orange County Council No. 14, and the Meritorious Service Award from Grand Commandery at Orange County Commandery No 36.

He served as the Inspector for Department II, Division C, in 2015-16 and as the Assistant Director of Ritual for Department II in 2016-17. He will now serve as the Department Commander for Department II. Roger has definitely not taken the easy track to the progressive line but has met all challenges with skill and enthusiasm.

Roger and his beautiful wife, Lynn, have been married for 50 years. They were blessed with an amazing daughter, who gave them a wonderful son-in-law and together they made Roger and Lynn grandparents to the perfect grandson. Their

blessed with an amazing daughter, who gave them a wonderful son-in-law and together they made Roger and Lynn grandparents to the perfect grandson. Their grandson has now given them an amazing granddaughter-in-law and together they made Roger and Lynn great grandparents to two perfect great grandsons.

Roger and Lynn should serve as an example to all, as they have been happily married for all of these years and that was even while working together. Roger likes to say that he is retired but that only lasts until the phone rings and it is a client asking Roger to do something for them. I guess the proper term is semi-retired.

Because of the journey that life took Roger and Lynn on and the experiences that they had with the shrine hospital, Roger vowed to give back to the Shrine when he was able and he has truly committed himself to the wonderful works of the Shrine and their hospitals. Roger is currently serving on the Board of Governors for the Shrine Hospital.

I look forward to each of you having an opportunity to meet and get to know Roger and Lynn. They are wonderful people and I am so thankful that Roger decided to take this appointment and join the Grand Commandery progressive line.

Thomas N. Thomas
 Grand Commander
 Grand Commandery of California

GRAND COMMANDER'S ITINERARY --- 2017

Aug	4	3-Way Reception, North Bay	Fairfield
	5	3-Way Reception, East Bay	Alameda
	6	3-Way Reception, SFO/Peninsula	Orange Park
	19	3-Way Reception, Dept I	Riverside
Sept	9	REGC Reception, Long Beach Cmdry #40	Long Beach