

Sciots Newsletter

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Annual 2008 Report
- Official Visitation San Francisco #1 Feb. 20-22
- Pharaoh's Message
- New Programs
- Pharaoh's Cruise to Scandinavia and Russia
- Electronic Newsletter

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SUPREME PYRAMID ANNUAL REPORT

Annual Supreme Session for 2008 was a successful event which resulted in several new programs being introduced by our Pharaoh. The objective this year is to revitalize our Order by creating several internal programs which will demonstrate the positive actions of our local pyramids. Some of these programs include a re-dedication to observing awards for pyra-

mids that have the greatest increase of membership, best newsletter, special programs for outreach and many other positive steps. Each pyramid is to establish a contact person for the Sciots Newsletter which will allow local information being forwarded to the Supreme body for distribution. The Sciots Newsletter will be modified this year to

allow for email distribution to all those members who have email addresses. This will speed up the process and save on postage fees. If you have an email address and would like to receive your newsletter electronically, please notify the Supreme Office at (858) 755-0931 or send an email to gparks@san.rr.com with your email address and name.

M E S S A G E F R O M T H E P H A R A O H

O Sciots
The new Supreme Pyramid year is well under way, and I hope this message find you and your Pyramid doing well, and energized about Sciotry. Each

Pyramid should have received my various written communications regarding new Supreme programs. Those communications should have been read at the Pyramid meetings in

December and January.
In case you haven't heard about what's going on, let me summarize. Beginning this year, we will presenting several awards for outstanding work in

Local Pyramid Activities

San Jose Pyramid #9

Greetings Sciots

San Jose Pyramid No. 9 is well on the way to meet the Pharaoh's goal of 10 new members for each Pyramid. During our December meeting we initiated 5 new members, including the Deputy Grand Master of Masons in the State of California. For our February meeting we have received 6 more petitions.

We are looking forward to our Cornerstone Awards in July. In past years, nearly every lodge in the area has been a participant. It has grown from a small ceremony that can be hosted in the Pyramids meeting location, to an event that has required a larger venue. We will be hosting the event for the second time in the San Jose Masonic Center on July 31, and expect to have an audience of over 175 people, with 15-18 recipients.

Ralph Nikolaus
Toparch San Jose No. 9

REMEMBER This space is available for your local pyramid reports so please make your submissions to the Supreme Office and let the Order know what is happening in your pyramid.

Amendment the Constituion and General Laws - Passed

“The ‘Promotion of the Order Committee’ shall consist of at least one representative from each State where constituent active Sciot Pyramids exist. Both the Chairman, and the Membership, for this Committee, will be appointed annually by the Pharaoh. The Committee shall consist of seven (7) appointed members or Committeemen.

Promotion of the Order activities are directed to increase the visibility of Sciotry, promote membership in Sciotry, and expanding new Pyramids. All funds will be deposited in the same manner as all other Sciots monies. It will be turned into the Supreme Scribe for recording and then deposited under control of the Supreme Chancellor.

Said monies will be placed into the encumbered Extension of the Order Funds which can only be used for Promoting Sciotry, and listed under a special account labeled Promotion of the Order. No monies raised by the Promotion of the Order committee will be used for any other purpose than for the Promotion of Sciotry and only then by permission of the Supreme Pyramid during Supreme Sessions or the Extension of the Order Committee when the Supreme Pyramid is not in session. Strict accounting of all monies within this account will be made at Annual Sessions and available to all interested Sciots during the year.”

This become effective at the time of passage at Annual Sessions in 2008.

PHARAOH'S COMMENTS (CONT)

easier for those young people in need to apply for assistance. We will be instituting a workshop of Pyramid Mobibs, to help them during their year as Toparch, and a workshop for Pyramid Scribes. I have instructed each Toparch to appoint a Supreme Bulletin reporter, whose job it will be to forward articles about that Pyramid to our Supreme Scribe, for inclusion in the Supreme Bulletin. This is so that all in Sciotry may know what is going on in each Pyramid. I have established several goals this year. I expect that we will create at least 99 new Sciots before October 1, 2009. This should be a simple task, as long as we are willing to talk about Sciotry, and let our Masonic brethren know what we have to offer. The membership award which I mentioned earlier should serve as an incentive to get those new members in. And to let you know, as of February 6, San Jose Pyramid will have already initiated 11 new members. So if your Pyramid wants that award, you'd better get on it.

It is my hope that we will issue dispensation to one new Pyramid this year, and that we will re-constitute one Pyramid which existed in the past but has since ceased to meet. A packet will be distributed to each Pyramid during the second quarter of the Supreme year, which will contain everything needed to request dispensation for a new Pyramid. I'm hoping that everyone will be on the lookout for opportunities to bring Sciotry to a place where it has not previously existed, and to re-establish closed Pyramids.

There are a number of events coming up, to which I am very much looking forward. The first Pharaoh's Visit of the year is coming up quickly, as San Francisco Pyramid #1 is hosting their first Supreme event in several years. It will be February 20-21. Registrations forms are available on the Supreme website. Please do your best to attend. Other events to look forward to are: Pharaoh's Visit to Sciots Tract #11, March 27-28; Supreme Semi-Annual in Stockton, May 1-2; and the Pharaoh's Visit to Long Beach #43 and San Diego #32, Aug. 7-8.

There are two other events I want to mention, which I thought deserved their own paragraphs. The first is the Pharaoh's Visit to New Jersey. This event will be immediately following the Annual Communication of the New Jersey Grand Lodge. This is significant in that our own Bill Berman, Past Pharaoh, will be installed Grand Master of Masons in New Jersey. This will mark the first time in our history that one man has served as both Pharaoh and Grand Master, so it is an historic occasion. We will attend the Grand Lodge installation, prior to the visitation. The Annual Communication will be held April 14-16, in Atlantic City, NJ, and the Pharaoh's Visit, hosted by Harold Elliott #1 and New Jersey #2, will be April 17-18 in Burlington, NJ. I hope you will consider joining us as we witness history in the making.

The last event I'd like to talk about is the Pharaoh's Cruise to Scandinavia and Russia. This 10-day cruise sails out of Copenhagen, Denmark, on June 15, 2009. I would love to see as many Sciots as possible come with us on this great adventure. On the cruise, we are planning a Sciots initiation-at-sea. If you've never seen one of these, it is a fun, gratifying experience. And this is not only my Pharaoh's cruise, it is also a very special personal occasion, as Micki and I will be celebrating our 30th wedding anniversary on board. The flyer for the cruise can be found on the Supreme website. I hope you will join us. I hope that you are looking forward to this coming Sciots year as much as I am. I look forward to meeting each and every Scot at the many events on our busy calendar this year.

Randy Downey
Pharaoh



NEW PROGRAMS FOR 2009

PYRAMID OF THE YEAR: Beginning right now, each Pyramid will be competing for the Pyramid of the Year Award. This should be a fun and exciting competition, and will help all Pyramids to improve. The first award will be given at the Annual Sessions in November, 2009.

PYRAMID MEMBERSHIP AWARD: An award will be given to the Pyramid that initiates the highest number of new members this coming year. With a little work, this award is attainable by any Pyramid.

SCRIBE OF THE YEAR: We want to thank our Pyramid Scribes for all their hard work. But we also want to remind them that they need to keep Supreme Pyramid apprised of all that goes on in their Pyramids. The Scribe who performs all his functions to a high level, does everything he is supposed to do, and also goes that little bit extra, will be awarded the Scribe of the Year Award.

BEST THEME EVENT AT A SUPREME FUNCTION OR OFFICIAL VISIT: To the Pyramid that puts on the best theme event in hosting the Supreme Pyramid, be it at a Pharaoh's Official Visit, Semi-Annual Sessions, or other event, will go this new award. We encourage all Pyramids to keep the fun in Sciotry. To that end, we have created this award. I hope you will all consider participating in this competition.

MOBIBS SEMINAR: Beginning in 2009, we will put on a seminar for all Pyramid Mobibs at the Semi-Annual session of the Supreme Pyramid. The seminar will be held during the day on Friday. The purpose of the seminar is to help prepare the Mobib for his term as Toparch, so that he may be better equipped to lead his Pyramid, and provide a better, all-around program. I strongly encourage all Mobibs to attend. I also encourage Pyramids to assist the Mobibs, by subsidizing their attendance at Semi-Annual sessions.

SCRIBE WORKSHOPS: Beginning with the 2008 Annual Sessions, we have brought back the Scribe Workshops, which are designed to assist Pyramid Scribes to better do their jobs. Unfortunately, attendance at the Annual Sessions has been poor among Scribes. Therefore, much like the Mobibs, I ask each Pyramid to assist the Scribe, by offering some financial assistance, to allow him to attend the sessions.

SUPREME BULLETIN: Communication between the Supreme Pyramid and subordinate Pyramids has fallen off sharply in recent years. It is our intent to make dramatic improvements in the frequency and manner in which we communicate with Pyramids and individual Sciots. Starting immediately, we will begin the process of changing over to an email version of our Supreme Bulletin. Each Pyramid should submit an article, at least once per quarter, outlining some special event or program, or detailing a successful membership program, or otherwise reporting on that particular Pyramid. I am directing each Toparch to appoint a Bulletin Reporter, who will be responsible for submitting the articles.

SCIOTS FOUNDATION: Were you aware that the Ancient Egyptian Order of Sciots has its own, self-contained charitable organization? Most Sciots don't know that the Sciots Foundation exists, or if they do, they are not clear what's its purpose it. This fund was created to assist our youth, specifically our Masonic youth, who are in need. The Foundation has been greatly under-utilized in recent years, and I consider that to be unacceptable.



PYRAMID OF THE YEAR PROGRAM DETAILS

Eligibility Criteria

Complete Pyramid membership information (including name, address, phone number, lady name, email address, birth date, and initiation date) must be submitted to the Supreme Scribe no later than January 31.

Election / Installation results, naming all officers of the Pyramid, must be submitted to the Supreme Scribe no later than November 30.

Full Per Capita payment must be made to Supreme Pyramid by the due date, January 31.

Pyramid must hold at least 2 social events.

Pyramid must hold or sponsor at least one event in support of Blue Lodge Masonry.

Pyramid must hold at least 10 meetings, either business meetings or informal meetings, during the year (Oct. 1 – Sept. 30).

Pyramid must initiate at least 5 new members.

New members must be reported within 15 days of initiation, and report must be accompanied by full payment of new member fees (\$25 per new member).

Pyramid must submit at least 4 articles or other news items, for inclusion in the Supreme Bulletin (at least one per issue).

Pyramid must have at least one representative present for the Annual Session and Semi-Annual Session of Supreme Pyramid