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**California Supplement  
 Grand Commander's Message  
 August, 2020**

Greetings Sir Knights and Ladies,

Traditionally during this time of the year, Lodges are dark. Sir Knights and families are traveling, camping, etc having fun but at this extraordinary times and unusual challenges, plans were deferred, social distancing is still in effect. But even in the midst of this uncertain times it is my pleasure to introduce SK Rick L. Baca filling the station in the start of the progressive line of the Grand Commandery.

Sir Knight Rick Baca was born on September 11, 1969 in Hollywood, California. Raised in the San Fernando Valley, between Burbank and Glendale. Went to Joaquin Miller Elementary School, Eleanor J. Toll Middle School, and finally to Herbert Hoover High School.

Joined the US Army at 17 right out of High School, after scoring high on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, as a E-1 (private). After seeing a video on tanks, fell in love with it. Went to Basic and AIT training at Fort Knox, Kentucky. Shipped off to Mannheim, Germany and stationed with 5th Battalion 77th Armor Regiment in the 8th Infantry Division (mechanized).

Attended the Primary Leadership Development Course, and earned the Army Commendation Medal for placing first in his class. Attained the rank of E-5 (Sergeant) in 3 ½ years and served during the Gulf War for Operation Desert Shield, before finally leaving Active Duty in 1991.

After leaving the military, fortunate enough to find employment in the Hollywood Entertainment Industry working as a data entry clerk for a payroll company. During the next 20+ years learned all about Movie/TV Accounting and worked on such projects as Alien: Resurrection, Romy and Michelle's High School Reunion, Thor, Guardians of the Galaxy and many others. Eventually being hired by CBS Television in 2017 as Director of Post Production Finance.

Having been married once for 6 years, the result having been his son, Gavin Christopher Baca, who was born on December 18, 1999. He currently serves in the US Army, at Fort Hood, Texas, as a Signal Support Systems Specialist.

Joined Masonry in 2004, after reading about it on the Internet. Contacted Old West Lodge No. 813 in Newhall, California and was Initiated on January 20, 2004. Passed on April 20, 2004, and Raised on June 15, 2004. Elected and Served as Master of Old West Lodge in 2007. Served as Treasurer for 3 years from 2008 – 2011. Joined Oasis Lodge UD in 2011, and became the Junior Deacon when they received their charter in 2012, becoming Oasis Lodge No. 854. Became Master for the second time in 2015, and for the third time in 2018. Committeeman for Grand Lodge, as a member of the Lodge Support Committee from 2008-2011. Has served in many other Masonic bodies during the years. Currently serving as Commandant of Units for Al Malaikah Shrine, Past Worthy Patron of Old West Chapter OES, Past President of Los Angeles Chapter National Sojourners, Past Monarch of Cinema Grotto Mystic Order of the Veiled Prophets of the Enchanted Realm, Past President of the Los Angeles Masonic Service Bureau, member of Pasadena Valley Scottish Rite, and member of the Royal Order of Scotland.

Joined the York Rite in 2004, and has presided as High Priest in 2012, Illustrious Master in 2013, and Commander in 2011. Elected Treasurer after the passing of mentor Richard Cooper. Also a member of St. Albans York Rite College, Sierra Pacific Priory, and member of Glenwood York Rite College. Served as Inspector of the Royal Arch, Cryptic Councils, and Commanderies in his area for several years, as well as Assistant Director of Ritual for the Grand Council and Adjutant for the Grand Commandery. He has been awarded the Meritorius Service Medal, Russell D. Roberts Perpetual Trophy, Grand High Priest Distinguished Service Medal, and High Priest of the Year for the State.

In His service,  
 SK Cirilo P Marquez  
 Grand Commander

“Together=Success”, and “Small is Huge”

**Matthew 7:7 “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you”**