

The Florida

Vol. 2 Issue 1

York Rite Mason

Happy

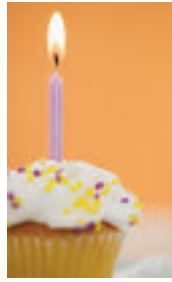
First

Anniversary



Content

- page 2 Words from the Grand Royal Arch**
- page 3 Words from the Ninth Grand Arch**
- page 4 Words from the Grand Asylum**
- page 5 Main Article - First Anniversary**
- page 7 News From Around the State**
- page 14 News from Our Youth**
- page 15 Grand York Rite Convention**
- page 16 Convention Registration Form**
- page 18 York Rite Golf Tournament**
- page 19 Knights Templar Drill Teams**
- page 20 Meet Your 2008-2009 Leaders**
- page 23 Setting Goals for Your Organization**
- page 25 A History of the K. T. Apron**
- page 30 Thoughts for Meditation**
- page 31 Upcoming Events**



MESSAGE FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

Companions, Sir Knights and Brethren:

Time really flies when the job you are doing is enjoyable. It just seems like yesterday when your Grand York Rite Communication Committee began their quest to have a newsletter to keep our Florida York Rite brethren informed on past events, news and upcoming events. What began as a newsletter evolved into a magazine. Our objectives were several. First: to make the magazine a communication tool for bringing the message of our Grand York Rite leaders to its members. Second: to make known to our members what is happening around our York Rite jurisdictions. Third: to make this publication an educational tool for our members. Fourth: to make this a forum for our Companions.

We have published articles to cover these objectives. But it has been through the support and effort of so many Companions that this magazine has become a reality and a success. It is our ardent wish and desire to continue with this magazine but it will ultimately be our Companions and Sir Knights that will make that decision.

In the past, we advertised for Companions to be correspondents for our magazine. We continue to persist in our efforts and secure at least two to three correspondents per York Rite district. We continue to request articles from the Companions. One such Companion is Exc. Companion Corbin Elliot. He has been a constant collaborator and correspondent for his district. Many of the articles submitted on activities in the northeast corner of Florida were done by this Companion. How many more Companions are willing to emulate this Companion?

Our 2008 Grand Convention is around the corner. We invite all York Rite Companions to join their Dais Officers in attending this grand event of York Rite. The appointed officers who aspire to lead their York Rite Body one day, this is a great leadership learning tool.

Fraternally your Communication Committee

S. K. David A. Aponte, Eminent Jr. Warden
S. K. Charles "Chic" Cicero, Eminent Sr. Warden
M. Ill. Ron Blaisdell, Grand Chaplain



WORDS FROM THE GRAND ROYAL ARCH

MOST EXCELLENT DANIEL E. DALE

Companions:

How quickly time flies, my year as your Grand High Priest is coming to an end. It has been a year of work and commitment to the principles that guide us as Royal Arch Masons. I have traveled throughout our jurisdiction and met outstanding and dedicated Royal Arch Masons, working to better their local Chapters. From North to South, from West to East, their commitment and work will ultimately elevated the quality of Capitular Masonry for all our Companions. The work of these Companions makes it an honor and pleasure to be called a Royal Arch Mason.

To my Companions in the Grand Line, District Deputies and Committeemen, it has been an honor and pleasure serving with all of you. Your work and dedication to our Grand Chapter is to be commended. I thank you for your support during my year. I am truly blessed to count all of you as my Companions. Your dedication and efforts enhances Capitular Masonry. I encourage each of you to continue with the same energy and continue supporting our Grand Chapter for the ensuing years.

This edition of The Florida York Rite Mason marks its first anniversary. Companions David Aponte, Charles "Chic" Cicero and Ron Blaisdell have worked diligently to make it a readable enjoyment for our Companions and Sir Knights. I encouraged them to continue their dedication and efforts to make the magazine one of pride for our Florida Grand York Rite Bodies. Thank you Companions for producing this magazine.

Finally, on behalf of Linda and myself, a big thank you to all my Floridian Companions for your support during my year as Grand High Priest. It has been a pleasure and honor to serve you as such.

Fraternally Your Grand High Priest

Daniel E. Dale

**Remember you are the mirror of York Rite Freemasonry.
Lead by example. Preach by example. Practice what you preach.**



WORDS FROM THE NINTH GRAND ARCH

MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GEORGE E. MALONE

Companions:

My year as Most Illustrious Grand Master is quickly coming to an end. Time flies when you enjoy what you are doing. Two major events occurred during my year. First, we celebrated the Sesquicentennial of The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Florida. I would like to thank those whose have helped in organizing and celebrating of our 150th birthday on March 8th. Second, the loss of my life-long companion, wife and friend for 50 years, Barbara Malone. A big thank you to all those that prayed and offered their support to my family during this time of sorrow.

By the time you read this, we will be at our Grand Convention. For many of us, the Convention is an opportunity to meet with many of our Companions and Sir Knights from all over the area whom we have not seen for a little while. This is something that I look forward to every year. I meet many new friends this past year. Take time to meet with many of your Brethren and Grand Line Officers and share your ideas with them if this is your first time attending the Conclave. They need to be greeted as you were on your first visit to a York Rite Convention. By conversing with these Brothers, you may take some pride and enthusiasm when you return to home York Rite Bodies. Bring that enthusiasm back and work on building the York Rite back up to its past glory days by working on increasing our membership in our York Rite by getting involved in our Blue Lodge. This may be an idle dream but with your help it can succeed in the coming years.

I want to congratulate and thank the Communication Committee on their first anniversary in producing The Florida York Rite Mason. This is a fine magazine which I encourage each Companion to read. Recently, the magazine got an important recognition by being posted on www.yorkrite.org. Kudos to M. Ill. Ron Blaisdell, S. K. Charles "Chic" Cicero and S. K. David Aponte for a job well done.

Finally, to the Grand Line officers, your dedication to Cryptic Masonry needs to be commended. Thank you for your support and work. All of you truly made this an enjoyable year. To all my Cryptic Companions, thank you for your support during my year as Most Illustrious Grand Master. I pray you will continue with the same spirit and energy for our incoming Most Illustrious Grand Master. Again thank you all.

Your Most Illustrious Grand Master

George E. Malone



WORDS FROM THE GRAND ASYLUM

SIR KNIGHT LEROY E. FACKLER

Sir Knights:

The 114th Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Florida is just around the corner. I truly enjoyed my year as your Grand Commander. My visits around our jurisdiction reaffirms the belief of the work and dedication the Sir Knights have towards Freemasonry, York Rite Masonry and York Rite Templary. It has been a year of challenges, accomplishments and changes. We have come a long way but the journey continues. Let us renew our commitment as Knights Templar to better ourselves and our Order in Florida for the Glory of Our Lord and Saviour.

Our jurisdiction have the honor and pleasure to have the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of North America appoint two of our own as Department Commanders, Sir Knight George A. Chipouras (Past Grand Commander 1987) as Department Commander for Subordinate Commanderies and Sir Knight Robert E. Burleson (Past Grand Commander 2002) as South Eastern Department Commander. My congratulations to these two Sir Knights. I also want to congratulate the Communication Committee for putting out an excellent publication. The Florida York Rite Mason is a year old. I hope it will have more anniversary and be the pride of Florida York Rite.

Finally, I personally want to thank each of you for your dedication and support this year, to the Grand Commandery of Florida, in general, and to me as Right Eminent Grand Commander. To the Grand Line Officers, thank you for your support and dedication during my year. You all are commended for the work done. Continue with the same dedication and energy with the incoming Grand Commander.

Again, thank you for your support and allowing me to serve as your Grand Commander during 2007 - 2008.

Fraternally your Right Eminent Commander,

Leroy E. Fackler

Our First Anniversary

by Sir Knight David A. Aponte

Companions and Sir Knights

We've come a long way. It seems like yesterday the Communication Committee set forth a proposal to publish a newsletter for the benefit of our York Rite Craft. Communication is essential to the survival of any institution. Communication within our York Rite Fraternity is not only important for our survival but also to make an impact within our institution for improvement. We wanted this medium to inform the Craft about events and stories happening throughout the jurisdiction, give our leaders a forum to lay out their plans on the trestleboard, provide the Craft with Leadership and Masonic education, provide the Craft with a forum to express their ideas and promote events within our jurisdiction. For some, this might not sound as a change but for us it was a leap into the unknown as we didn't have a York Rite newsletter nor magazine for several years. The Committee had faith and continues to have faith in this project. We have made it so far thanks to the support of all of you. Some will ask, how much is that support costing us?

The cost of publication is zero to the Grand York Rite Bodies and to the Companions and Sir Knights. Our subscription is by email. Our delivery is by e-mail and posted on two websites. Our subscription list has grown during the year. If you don't have an email, but have access to the Internet, you can view and/or download it on the Florida Grand York Rite (www.floridagrandchapter.org) or Ocala York Rite (www.mastermason.com/oyrb) websites or have a Companion print it for the local York Rite Body. Beginning with this issue, we offer another alternative to our Companions for reading this magazine. We will post our issues on www.issuu.com/Fla.Grand.York.Rite where it can be read as a paper magazine. We will continue to offer the opportunity to download the issues at the two websites mentioned above.



This was our first issue with 23 pages. It came out prior to our 2007 Grand Convention. We knew we needed to revise it to get to the publication that the Committee envisioned and wanted.



Our third issue, with 50 pages, took us on different journey. The newsletter changed to a magazine format. This one was dedicated to the Order of DeMolay.



Our first Christmas issue. We received a lot of calls congratulating us for this issue. In addition, this issue was posted on www.yorkrite.org website. A big thank you to Companion Dan Pushee, webmaster of York Rite.org.

OK -Thank you very much- I enjoy reading the news and the express was excellent
Dan E. Dale
Grand High Priest

Sir Knight David,
Thank you so much. What a great job. This is just what we needed to pull it all together.
Dayle L. Schrock, EC, PDDGC #6
Melbourne Commandery #41

What began as an experiment has taken off in a whole new and unexpected direction. We began as a newsletter and evolved to a magazine. Plans are already in the works to further develop this magazine. In the near future, we will begin to offer your York Rite magazine to our Blue Lodge brethren. If you know of a brother that would be interested, please send us his email address with the name of the Lodge he belongs to.

We know that at some point, the present members of the Committee must retire and hang up their tools forever. It is their ardent wish and desire that this enterprise will continue in the hands of future generations of York Rite Masons. This will be the greatest legacy York Rite Freemasonry can leave for Freemasons within and outside of Florida. **Now, we arrived to the fifth issue...**

What does the future hold for your magazine? It will depend on you Companion and Sir Knight. We are here to fill a need. Your input and contribution is needed and encouraged. To all our Companions and Sir Knights that support this magazine and contribute to its growth, on behalf of Charles Cicero, Ron Blaisdell and myself THANK YOU.



The Florida Grand York Rite Communications Committee Congratulates

Most Excellent Daniel E. Dale, Grand High Priest 2006-2007

Most Illustrious George E. Malone, Illustrious Grand Master 2006-2007

Sir Knight Leroy E. Fackler, Right Eminent Grand Commander 2006-2007

and

the 2007 - 2008 Grand Line Officers

**For a Job Well Done and Their Support
to the Florida York Rite Mason Magazine**





Northeast Florida York Rite College No. 114 Elevates Three

by Companion Elliot Corbin

Northeast Florida York Rite College No. 114, in Jacksonville, Florida on February 9, 2008 conferred the Order Knight of York, and elevated three new Companion Knights into the Order. The new Knights of York are John Page, Fred Porter and David R. "Danny" Johnson.

Pictured above were the Northeast Florida York Rite officers, cast and new Companion Knights after the Order. Seated in front were, from the left, new Knights of York: John Page, Fred Porter, and David R. "Danny" Johnson.

In the first row standing, left to right, were: David C. Wilkinson, MEPGHP, Seneschal; Frederick L. Piasecki, REPGC, Deputy Governor; Edwin B. Moore, III, Grand Governor for Florida, of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America; Burt F. Maguire, Governor of N.E. Florida Y. R. College No. 114; Richard L. Ames, Clarence N. Gruber, OPC, Primate; and Samuel D. Reasor, DDGM, District 7, Grand Council R. & S.M. of Florida.

Standing, left to right in the second row, were: Quinnie R. Williams, Sr., KYCH; J. R. Hunt, Ernest Beeman, Walter M. Hammond, OPC, Past Governor; and Robert E. Hendren, III, Secretary.

Seen, standing left to right in the back row, were: Robert Gagnon, C. Robert Cooper, DDGHP, District 7, Grand Chapter R.A.M. of Florida, Preceptor; Darryl A. D'Angina, OPC, KYCH, R. Ex. Grand Scribe, Grand Chapter R.A.M. of Florida; Robert Gurney Atwell, DDGC, District 8, Grand Commandery K.T. of Florida; and William E. Darden, Jr., OPC, KYCH, Deputy Grand Governor for Florida of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America.

Successful Spring Festival Held At Box Ranch

by Sir Knight Leroy Fackler, Right Eminent Grand Commander

The Spring Festival in Indiantown was held in honor of Most Illustrious George E. Malone in loving memory of his wife Barbara Malone who passed away on February 22, 2008. The Festival started on Friday night, February 29, 2008 with the conferring of the first three degrees of the Chapter. The rest of the degrees were done on Saturday. This was the first time that the work for the spring Festival was performed outdoors on a ranch. The Order of the Temple started at 7:00 P.M. at the back of the ranch. A platform was built for the event: it was 32 feet wide by 40 feet long and had a small raised stage on one end. Since we had no electricity, the Orders of the Commandery were done with lanterns and tiki torches. To add to the drama, somewhere nearby, two packs of coyotes were howling while the Order of the Temple was being performed. The companions and candidates all enjoyed the work and the atmosphere, but not the giant mosquitoes. Everyone involved has commented that they would like to perform the work at the same location next year if possible.

Here is the breakdown of the degree work. We exalted a total of 37: 17 from Fort Pierce, 16 from West Palm, 2 from Sebring, 1 from Melbourne, and 1 from Fort Lauderdale. We greeted a total of 37: 17 from Fort Pierce, 16 from West Palm, 2 from Sebring, 1 from Melbourne, and 1 from Fort Lauderdale. We knighted a total of 39: 17 from Fort Pierce, 16 from West Palm, 4 from Sebring, 1 from Melbourne, and 1 from Fort Lauderdale.

As the Grand Commander of Florida, I will say that this was one of the best degrees that I have been involved in, and I hope that we can do it again. Many Companions and Sir Knights worked very hard to make this event happen, and I would like to extend my gratitude to each and every one. I am especially grateful to Sir Knight Paul Friend: without his taking charge this Festival could not have taken place. To every new Sir Knight who made it possible for us to put this festival on: THANK YOU.



More Pictures From the Spring Festival at Box Ranch



OCALA'S 6TH ANNUAL ROSE CHARITY BALL

by Sir Knight David A. Aponte

The Ocala York Rite Bodies celebrated their 6th Annual Rose Charity Ball on Saturday, January 26th. York Rite Masons, Ladies and guests from different parts of Florida gathered at the Ocala Elks Club to enjoy a night of great food, music and fellowship. This year instead of a guest speaker, a Powerpoint presentation was given by the Secretary/Recorder on our York Rite Charities and the main reason we were there. The Ocala York Rite Bodies previously agreed that the net profits be divided equally among the three main York Rite Charities. Those present recognized the work of R. Exc. Alan Walls and Sister Marjorie Wolf in making the Charity Ball a success.

R. Exc. Alan Walls, Charity Ball Coordinator stated, "...It gives me pride to see so many Companions, Brethren and their Ladies come together in support of our York Rite Charities and make it a successful night. Not only was the food and music great but knowing that we are giving to charities where 98% of the donations benefit those in need. What other charity can meet that record?..."

Our congratulations to R. Exc. Alan Walls and Sister Majorie Wolf for a job well done..."



R.E.P.G.C. Piasecki and wife danced a polka...



Some of the guests were having an interesting conversation...



All this while the band played on...

SIR KNIGHTS ATTEND EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE AT JACKSONVILLE BEACH

by Companion Elliot Corbin

On Easter Sunday morning, March 23rd at about 6:00 A.M. several Sir Knights from Damascus Commandery No. 2, K. T. in Jacksonville, Florida met at Jacksonville Beach for their 58th Annual Easter Sunrise Service. The Service is held through cooperation of the Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church, St. Andrews Lutheran By the Sea, St. John The Baptist Catholic Church, the Sunrise Worship Center, and the Community Presbyterian Church of Jacksonville Beach.

Pastors from the several churches spoke, and music was provided by a group from the Community Presbyterian Church. Masons and their ladies from Ribault Lodge No. 272, of Jacksonville Beach, and J. Wendell Fargis Lodge No. 356, of Neptune Beach, with assistance of their youth groups, served complimentary coffee and donuts to the early morning worshipers. A full breakfast was provided at Ribault Lodge after the service.

The Sir Knights assisted church ushers in collecting the offering from a large and appreciative Easter Sunrise audience. Pictured as the sun rose after the service, were from the left, Sir Knights: William H. McClean, PC; C. Robert Cooper, PC, PDDGC, DI; Billy Collier, PC, PDDGC, E. Grand Sentinel of the Grand Commandery, K.T. of Florida; Jimmy A. Dorsey, SwB; Leland E. Stanford, III, PC; Lewis E. Duffey, CG; and Corbin P. Elliott, KYCH, KCT.



GAINESVILLE'S SEMI-ANNUAL TABLE CHAPTER

by S. K.. David A. Aponte

Gainesville Chapter No. 2 celebrated their first 2008 Semi-Annual Table Chapter on March 18th. Companions from several Chapters (Jacksonville, Ocala, Tampa, etc.) and distinguished guests joined the Companions of Gainesville for an evening of excellent fellowship and food. The guest speaker was R. W. Dick Martinez (photo #4), Junior Grand Warden of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of F.&A.M. of Florida. The Junior Grand Warden gave an interesting and motivating speech on Freemasonry and its future. At the end of the event, those present spoke highly of the event and how they greatly enjoyed it.

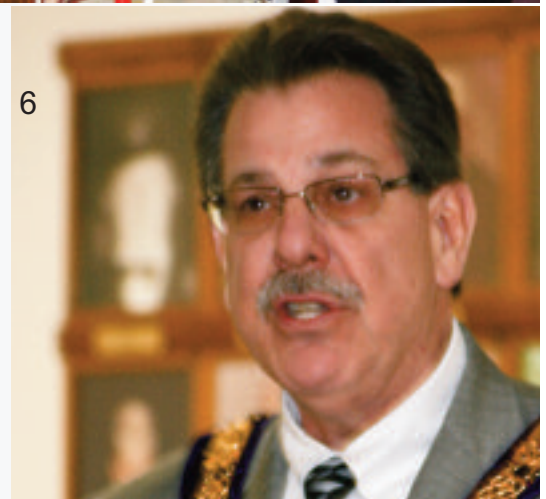
Photo #1 shows the head table: (from left to right): R.W. Martinez, Excellent Comp. Dennis Haskins, Gainesville's High Priest, R.Exc. James P. Rudman, Grand King and R. Exc. Darryl D'Angina, Grand Scribe.

Photo # 2: Gainesville's new Royal Arch Masons.

Photo #3- The High Priest welcoming the Companions to the Table Chapter.

Photo # 5: The High Priest introducing R.W. Martinez for his speech.

Photo #6: R.W. Martinez during his speech





In our obligation to support our Masonic Youth Organizations, **The Florida York Rite Mason** will begin to print any news related to our Youth Organizations. The Job's Daughters, the Order of Rainbow for Girls and the Order of DeMolay are welcomed to submit any information or news they desire for the benefits of our fraternity. The following information has reached us through the Florida DeMolay eCordon.

April 19th is "Pilgrimage Day" at the Masonic Home. This day includes a BBQ, a Car Show, a Chili Cook-Off, and the presentation of the First Lady's Project. Last year, there was a Tri-Youth Car Wash. There WILL be one this year, thanks to Dad Phillip Paul (aka "Granddaddy" Lake Sumpter DeMolay Advisor and a advisor for Orange Assembly). Each chapter that wishes to participate needs to provide their own sponges, buckets, rags and soap. The proceeds will be divided between the youth groups who participate based on the number of participants.

The 2008 Florida DeMolay State Conclave will be held at: Comfort Inn Conference Center 820 East Busch Blvd. Tampa, FL 33612 813-933-4011. Conclave will start on Saturday, July 19th, and we will be checking out on Wednesday morning, July 23rd.

Calendar of Events

April

- 4-6 - Knighthood Spring Festival
- 19 - Masonic Home Homecoming in St. Petersburg
- 22-24 - Grand Chapter OES of Florida
- 28-30 - Grand York Rite of Florida, Lake Mary. Banquet to be held on Sunday, April 27th.
- 30 - May 4 - Florida Shrine Association Convention, Orlando

May

- 22-24 - Grand Court of Amaranth for Florida
- 24 - SMC Reception and State Sweetheart Ball, Bahia Shrine, Orlando
- 25-28 - Grand Lodge F&AM of Florida, Orlando

Coming Events

- June 7 - Knighthood Convocation
- June 13-14 - Southeast Regional York Rite Meeting, Orlando
- June 18-21 - International Supreme Council & International Congress, Anaheim, CA
- June 20-24 - Florida Rainbow Grand Assembly
- July 19-23 - Florida DeMolay Conclave
- August 28-30 - Triennial Meetings General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons International, and General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons International, Indianapolis, IN
- September 5-8 - Florida DeMolay LTC, Florida FFA Training Center, Haines City

2008 GRAND YORK RITE CONVENTION

For those that have not yet received information on the Grand Convention, pages 14 - 17 have all the information related to this event.

WHEN: APRIL 27 - 30, 2008

**WHERE: Lake Mary Marriott Hotel
Lake Mary, Florida**

Saturday, April 26, 2008

Miami RCC Meeting 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Miami Priory KYCH Annual Meeting 2:30 PM - 6:00 PM
Miami KYCH Banquet & Installation 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Sunday, April 27, 2008

Officer's Meeting 9:00 AM - Noon
Commandery's By-Laws Committee 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM
Commandery's Jurisprudence 11:00 AM - Noon
Office Open & Convention Registration Noon - 4:00 PM
Chapter Jurisprudence 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM
Meeting MSRICF 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Council Jurisprudence 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Social Hour 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Grand York Rite Banquet 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Monday, April 28, 2008

Purple Cross Breakfast 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM
Breakfast (Open to All) 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM
Hospitality Room 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Local Chapter Opens 7:45 AM - 8:00 AM
Grand Convocation - Grand Chapter 8:00 AM - Noon
Office Open 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Men's Luncheon (open to All) Noon - 1:00 PM
Grand Chapter Awards Presentation 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM
Grand Chapter & Installation 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM
Order of the High Priesthood 4:15 PM - 6:00 PM
Order of the Silver Trowel 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

KYCH Breakfast (Open to All) 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM
Registration 7:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Hospitality Room Open 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Local Commandery Opens 7:45 AM - 8:00 AM
Grand Commandery's Divine Service 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Grand Conclave - Grand Commandery 8:00 AM - Noon
Office Open 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Ladie's Brunch** 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Ladies' SOOB Degree** 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Lunch (Open to All) Noon - 1:00 PM
Grand Conclave - Grand Commandery 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM
Grand Commandery Installation 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Knight Crusader of the Cross 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM



Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Breakfast on your own 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM
Registration 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Local Council Opens 7:45 AM - 8:00 AM
Grand Assembly-Grand Council 8:00 AM - Noon
Office Open 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Lunch on your own Noon - 1:00 PM
Grand Assembly-Grand Council 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM
Grand Council Installation 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Items marked with ** indicates time is tentative.

Copy of the Registration Form and Hotel information are on the next two pages.

We encourage all our Companions and Sir Knights, especially those who have recently joined York Rite, to attend and see how your Grand York Rite Bodies function.

York Rite The Continuation of the Masonic Journey

The Grand York Rite Bodies of Freemasonry of Florida

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons • The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters • The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar

2008 CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

The Orlando Marriott Lake Mary, FORM 1501 International Parkway, Lake Mary, FL 32746 1-800-380-7724 April 27-30, 2008

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name _____ Lady's Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone: () _____ E-mail address _____

Chapter _____ No. _____ Located at _____

High Priest _____ Past High Priest _____ DDGHP _____ Past DDGHP _____ Other: _____

Council _____ No. _____ Located at _____

Ill. Master _____ Past Ill. Master _____ DDGIM _____ Past DDGIM _____ Other: _____

Commandery _____ No. _____ Located at _____

Commander _____ Past Commander _____ DDGC _____ Past DDGC _____ Other: _____

Grand Line Office _____ Grand Body _____

MEN'S REGISTRATION FEE \$30.00 \$ 30.00

Grand Banquet (Sunday) \$45.00 Number of tickets _____ X \$45.00 = \$ _____
Please indicate meal choice & number of each: _____ Pork Loin _____ Tilapia

Breakfast – Open to all (Monday) \$17.00 Number of tickets _____ X \$17.00 = \$ _____

Lunch – Open to all (Monday) \$20.00 Number of tickets X \$20.00 = \$ _____

Men's Lunch (Tuesday) \$20.00 Number of tickets _____ X \$20.00 = \$ _____

Ladies Brunch (Tuesday) \$30.00 Number of tickets _____ X \$30.00 = \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: GRAND YORK RITE CONVENTION FUND

Mail to: Grand York Rite of Florida, P. O. Box 2740, Lake Placid, FL 33862-2740

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Received by Grand Secretary/Recorder (Date) _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ Check No. _____

HOUSING

CONVENTION HOTEL Please make your hotel reservations directly with The Orlando Marriott Lake Mary. Deadline for Reservations is March 26, 2008. Room Rate is \$ 80.00 plus taxes. No guarantee of availability after this date. 1-800-380-7724. Inform them that you are with the Grand York Rite.

NOTE: The Orlando Marriott Hotel is a Non-smoking hotel – only non-smoking rooms are available. A \$275.00 charge will be added to the hotel room charge if this rule is abused. There are designated smoking areas on the hotel grounds.

GENERAL INFORMATION

There will be separate tables each of the following:

HONORARY DEGREES

° Order of High Priesthood (Current or Past Excellent High Priest) – Monday, April 28 ° Order of the Silver Trowel (Current or Past Illustrious Master) – Monday, April 28 ° Knight Crusader of the Cross (Current or Past Eminent Commander) – Tuesday, April 29

There is a fee involved for each of these degrees.

PRE-REGISTRATION

° For those “pre-registered” for the convention.

∫ RETURNS AND CREDENTIALS

° For voting delegates to the convention.

NEW REGISTRATIONS

° Registration is available at the Convention; however, meal tickets may not be available due to seating limitations. Pre-registration is encouraged. \$30 registration fee required.

LADIES ACTIVITIES

Ladies Luncheon – Tuesday, April 29 **Other activities TBD as confirmed. ∫ Social Order of the Beauceant – Tuesday, April 29

MEALS: BREAKFAST: Buffet style -Standard breakfast items

LUNCHEON: Beef Stroganoff

LADIES BRUNCH: Breakfast items, Sautéed Chicken, Carving Station

BANQUET: Roast Loin of Pork or Tilapia with Lemon Caper Sauce

York Rite The Continuation of the Masonic Journey

Sign Up Sheet

Player 1 _____

Player 2 _____

Player 3 _____

Player 4 _____

Team Pair of Contact Phone Number:

Pay to the order of:
The Grand York Rite of Florida.

Tournament Fee: **\$70 per golfer or \$260 per 4-person team**

Field Limited: A full field will consist of 72 players

RETURN THIS PORTION & CHECK TO:

Dayle L. Schrock
490 Sail Lane #405
Merritt Island, FL 32953

For more information please call:

321-501-6506 (cell)

email: dayle318@earthlink.net

Format: "Mixed Scramble"

Includes:

Greens Fees, Cart, and Lunch

ROLLING HILLS GOLF COURSE

1749 Art Hagan Place
Longwood, FL. 32750

Sunday, April 27th, 2008
SHOTGUN START 8:00 A.M.

**Lunch and Awards
Ceremony
Immediately
Following Tournament**

Florida Grand York Rite Charity Golf Tournament

To Benefit 3 Charities

**R.A.R.A.
C.M.M.R.F
K.T.E.F**
(501c-3 Charities)

April 27, 2008

08:00 Shotgun Start
Sunday Morning

Rolling Hills Golf Course

1749 Art Hagan Place
Longwood, FL. 32750

Royal Arch Research Assistance, Inc. (R.A.R.A.)



The Central Auditory Research Center concentrates on exploring causes and solutions for individuals with central auditory processing disorder (CAPD). Thanks to generous support from the Royal Arch Research Assistance, Inc., a philanthropy of the General Grand Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons, International, audiologists certified by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, and researchers work with the Director, Dr. Joan Burleigh, to develop the next generation of diagnostic tests and effective treatments and technologies.

Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation, Inc. (CMMRF)



The research that CMMRF funds falls into two basic areas: vascular remodeling and Angiogenesis. Vascular remodeling basically deals with changing or reshaping the arteries and/or arterial walls to assist in the treatment of arteriosclerosis.

One approach to conduct this that has been studied was the use of an arterial catheter to deliver medication to the site of an arterial blockage. However, Dr. March soon discovered that this method was relatively ineffective due to the amount of the medication that was "washed away" and carried throughout the arterial system by the blood. This led to the development of coronary sac delivery.

Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc



"That Others May See"
**Mission Statement of the Knights
Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.**

To provide assistance to those who face loss of sight due to the need for surgical treatment without regard to race, color, creed, age, sex, or national origin provided that they are unable to pay or receive adequate assistance from current government agencies or similar sources and to provide funds for research in curing diseases of the eye.

From: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

**Sponsors \$25
Business Card size
(501c-3 Charities)**
TAX DEDUCTABLE

RETURN THIS PORTION &
CHECK TO:

Dayle L. Schrock
490 Sail Lane #405
Merritt Island, FL 32953

For more information please

call:

321-501-6506 (cell)

email:

dayle318@earthlink.net

Drill Teams of the Grand Commandery of Florida

by S.K. Ronald Bertie, R.E.P.G.C. (N.Y.)

Drill Master for the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Florida

Several months ago I communicated with the Commanderies of Florida via the Secretary/recorders about establishing drill teams. There was considerable interest in the Drill Teams. We now have the Grand Encampment Class D Drill Competition on the internet. Sir Knight David Aponte the Grand Junior Warden has placed the Grand Encampment Class D Drills on the Grand York Rite Newsletter, internet publication. The Grand Encampment Class D Drill Competition can now be downloaded onto your computer. Your Commandery can now work on the drills at their convenience. We are willing to help your Commandery or several Commanderies working together to establish drill teams. The drill teams could march in local parades, some could compete at the next Grand Encampment Triennial, which will be held in August of 2009 in the State of Virginia.

It will take several months of practice for the drill teams to become proficient to be able to march in public. Once the teams are established and can march in public it will be a great opportunity for public exposure of the Commanderies. Not only will your commandery look great but it will help to get more members through the public exposure. It will take a minimum of several weeks practicing at least two hours per week. The chairman of the Grand Encampment Drill Team Competition would be willing to assist us advise and guidance for nay teams we would have represent the State of Florida in the national Drill Team Competition in 2009.



If you would like more information on establishing drill teams please contact me.

My name is Ron Bertie, PGC (NY), KCT, Drill Master General Knights Templar of Florida. My e-mail address is Rjbertie@aol.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

Note:

Sir Knights:

Further news on the Drill Teams will be given in future issues.

Your help, effort and committment to this project is needed. Making it possible for this project to become a reality. Together we can make a difference. We encourage the Sir Knights to contact S.K. Ron Bertie.

Thank you.

The Communication Committee



Meet Your 2008 - 2009 York Rite Leaders



**Remember
You Are the Mirror of York Rite Freemasonry...Teach by Example**

Sir Knight Charles Perez
Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander
Grand Commandery of K.T. of Florida



Sir Knight Perez was born in Tampa, Florida. He graduated from the University of Tampa with a Bachelor of Science Degree. He honorably served in the United States Marine Corps. He married Ida Serra, also of Tampa. From their blessed union, they have 2 daughters and 5 grandchildren. After his service in the Armed Forces, he worked for United States Immigration Service-Border Patrol until his retirement. He was the District Director of the El Paso District at time of retirement.

His Masonic career began as a Master Mason in Marathon Lodge No. 323 In Marathon, Florida. He demitted to Ferry Pass Lodge No. 348 in Pensacola, Florida. He served the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Florida as follows: District Instructor 1993 & 1995, District Deputy Grand Master 1996, served in many Grand Lodge Committees. He is a Gold Proficiency Card holder

He is a member of the following Masonic organizations:

Scottish Rite - 32nd Degree KCCH. Past Venerable Master Lodge of Perfection

Hadji Shrine Temple

Zelica Grotto

York Rite - Past Presiding Officer of the Chapter – Council – Commandery

York Rite College – Joseph LeSuer No. 80 - Past Governor – Associate Regent

K.Y.C.H Priory 72, Panama City

Red Cross of Constantine – San Carlos Conclave

Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priest

Allied Masonic Degrees

Florida Lodge of Research

Order of the Purple Cross

Royal Order of Scotland

Order of Anointed Priest

Knight Crusaders of the Cross

Order of High Priesthood



Right Illustrious Dencel Smith
Deputy Grand Master
Grand Council of R. & S. M. of Florida

R.:I.: Dencel R. (Denny) Smith is a native of Kentucky, born November 17, 1940 in Salem, Kentucky. He attended local schools and graduated from Livingston Central High School in 1958. He later attended Tallahassee Community College graduating with an Associate Degree and graduated from Florida State University in 1988 with a BS Degree in Criminology. He is the father of three sons, one daughter, a stepson and stepdaughter. He has been blessed with 14 grandchildren and two great grandchildren. He is a member of Lake Jackson UMC in Tallahassee. He is married to Ann Chester Smith from Concord, Florida.

R.:I.: Smith served twenty-one years in the US Army retiring from active duty in September 1979. He then joined the Gadsden County School System in October 1980 as a JROTC Instructor and Military Property Custodian and retired from that position in June 2001.

R.:I.: Smith was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in 1969 in Camp Knox Lodge 919 in Radcliff, Kentucky. He became a dual member of Berlin Lodge No. 46, Berlin, Germany from 1969 to 1972. Companion Smith affiliated with J. Edwin Larson Lodge No. 361 in Tallahassee, Florida in 1983 and served as Worshipful Master in 1988. He qualified for a Gold Proficiency Card in February 1993 and served as District Deputy Grand Master in 1993-1994. He has served as the Secretary of Havana Lodge No. 167 from January 2002 to the present. His York Rite Career started in Germany in 1972 and in 1984 he became a member of the Tallahassee York Rite Bodies serving as High Priest of Florida Chapter No. 1 in 1996 as well as District Deputy Grand High Priest in 1996. He served as Illustrious Master of Seminole Council No. 30 in 1998 and District Deputy Grand Illustrious Master in 1999. He served as Eminent Commander of Tallahassee Commandery No. 12 in 1993 and as District Deputy Grand Commander in 1997. He has served as Governor of Joseph P. LeSuer York Rite College No. 80 made an Associate Regent with the Order of the Purple Cross in 2004. He has served as the Eminent Prior of Panama City Priory No. 72 of Knight York Cross of Honor. He is a member and officer in Spirit of Truth Tabernacle HRAKTP, San Carlos Conclave Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, and the Florida College, MSRICF. He is a Past Sovereign Master and current Secretary/Treasurer of the Wesley C. Harter Council No. 302, AMD in Tallahassee.

R.:I.: Smith is the current Master of Kadosh of the Tallahassee Consistory of the Scottish Rite and has been selected to receive the Knight Commander Court of Honor in November 2007.

R.:I.: Smith was appointed Sentinel of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Florida in 2002 and elected and installed as Deputy Grand Master in Lake Mary, FL in May 2007.

Companion Smith enjoys Seminole Baseball, traveling with his wife, reading, movies, his Masonic Affiliations and spending time with his grandchildren.



**Right Excellent James P. Rudman
Grand King
Grand Chapter of R.A.M. of Florida**

Right Exc. James P. Rudman was born in Baltimore on December 17, 1934. But had the opportunity to grow up in Brooklyn. After High School graduation, he was employed by Westinghouse Electrical Supply Co. In 1953, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps where he served honorably for 23 years. He obtained the rank of 1st Sargeant. His life was enriched when he married Mary Ann Kreps. Their blessed union produced three children: James Jr., Patricia Ann and Richard Lee. Upon completion of military service, he worked as personnel manager for United Aero Products in Burlington, New Jersey. Moving to Hollywood, Florida in 1976, he owned and operated a laundry and dry cleaning business for 10 years. He obtained a realtor's license and worked as such for 10 years. He fully retired in 1996 and moved to Floral City, Florida.

Right Exc. Rudman began his Masonic career when he was raised a Master Mason in Naval Lodge No. 24 on October 30, 1964. He is presently a member of Floral City Lodge No. 133, Floral City, Florida. He has occupied several stations in Blue Lodge: Worshipful Master (1983) Pioneer Lodge No. 311, Secretary (1984 - 1985) Pioneer Lodge No. 311, Secretary (1998 - 1999) Floral City Lodge No. 133, Worthy Patron of Lakeside Chapter No. 271 (1985, 1991, 1996) and Floral City Chapter No. 164 (2000). He received his Gold Certificate of Qualification in 1989. He served the Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Florida in the following capacities: District Instructor 28th Masonic District (1988-1990), District Deputy Grand Master old 28th Masonic District (1992), Grand Orator - 1996, State Chairman Public Relations and Publicity - 1996, Business Manager Florida Mason - 1996-1997) and Grand Lodge Representative to the Grand Lodge of Manitoba - 1997. He also give his time to the following youth organizations: Chairman of the Advisory Board for Rainbow Girls - Floral City Chapter No 164 (1998) and Chairman Advisory Board DeMolay Floral City Chapter (1997 & 1998).

He is a member of the following Masonic Appendant and Concordant Bodies:

Scottish Rite Bodies (Valley of Miami - 1980 Commander Scottish Rite Guard, Demitted to the Valley of Ocala in 1998).

Mahi Shrine (1981) (Past Masters Group and Directors Staff)

Miami Grotto (Monarch in 1995)

Royal Order of Scotland (1990)

Allied Masonic Degrees (1997) (Sovereign Master 2000 - George H. Wolf Council No. 387)

Northwest Florida York Rite College No. 114 (1998)

Knights Masons of USA - Gateway Council No. 51 (1998) (Excellent Chief - 2007)

Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine - St. Bernard de Clairvaux (2005)

Knight of the York Cross of Honour - Florida Priory No. 60 (2001)

He is currently a member of the Ocala York Rite Bodies as their Treasurer (2002-present). He is a Past High Priest (Ocala Chapter-1998), Past Illustrious Master (Ft. Lauderdale-1996 & Ocala-1999), Past Commander Ocala Commandery 1997, 1999 & 2006. He is a Past District Deputy G.H.P. 1999-2000, Past District Deputy G.M. 2000-2001 and Past District Deputy G.C. 2001-2002. He was appointed Grand Chapter Representative to the Grand Chapter of Arizona in 2005. He began his journey to the Grand Chapter East in 2001 as Sentinel.

Setting Goals for Your Organization

Goal setting is a powerful way of motivating your Masonic organization. This includes our officers and members of our lodges, chapters, councils and commanderies. Dr. Edwin Locke was a pioneer on goal setting and motivation in the late 1960s. In his 1968 article "Toward a Theory of Task Motivation and Incentives," he stated that people were motivated by clear goals and appropriate feedback. Locke went on to say that working toward a goal provided a major source of motivation to actually reach the goal – which, in turn, improved performance. In this article, we look at what Locke had to say about goal setting, and how we can apply his theory to our own masonic body performance goals. Let's see what the Goal Setting Theory is.

Goal Setting Theory

Locke's research showed that there was a close relationship between how difficult and specific a goal was and people's performance of a task. He found that specific and difficult goals led to better task performance than vague or easy goals. If you tell someone to "Try hard" or "Do your best" is less effective than "Try to get more than 80% correct" or "Concentrate on beating your best time." Likewise, having a goal that's too easy is not a motivating force. Hard goals are more motivating than easy goals, because it's much more of an accomplishment to achieve something that you have to work for. From his observations and research, Dr. Locke established five principles for Goal Setting.

Five Principles of Goal Setting

To motivate, goals must take into consideration the degree to which each of the following exists:

1. **Clarity.**
2. **Challenge.**
3. **Commitment.**
4. **Feedback.**
5. **Task complexity.**

1. **Clarity**

Clear goals are measurable, unambiguous, and behavioral. When a goal is clear and specific, with a definite time set for completion, there is less misunderstanding about what behaviors will be rewarded. You know what's expected, and you can use the specific result as a source of motivation. When a goal is vague – or when it's expressed as a general instruction, like "Take initiative" – it has limited motivational value. To improve your lodge's performance, set clear goals that use specific and measurable standards and language.

2. **Challenge**

One of the most important characteristics of goals is the level of challenge. People are often motivated by achievement, and they'll judge a goal based on the significance of the anticipated accomplishment. When you know that what you do will be well received, there's a natural motivation to do a good job. Rewards typically increase for more difficult goals. If you believe you'll be well compensated or otherwise rewarded for achieving a challenging goal, that will boost your enthusiasm and your drive to get it done. When setting goals, make each goal a challenge. If an assignment is easy and not viewed as very important – and if you or your masonic brother doesn't expect the accomplishment to be significant – then the effort may not be impressive.

3. **Commitment**

Goals must be understood and agreed upon if they are to be effective. People are more likely to

“buy into” a goal if they feel they were part of creating that goal. The notion of participative management rests on this idea of involving members in setting goals and making decisions. This doesn't mean that every goal has to be negotiated with and approved by your membership. It does mean that goals should be consistent and in line with previous expectations and organizational concerns. As long as your member believes the goal is consistent with the goals of the masonic body then the commitment should be there.

Interestingly, goal commitment and difficulty often work together. The harder the goal, the more commitment is required. If you have an easy goal, you don't need a lot of motivation to get it done. When you're working on a difficult assignment, you will likely encounter challenges that require a deeper source of inspiration and incentive.

As you use goal setting within your masonic body, make an appropriate effort to include the officers and committees in their own goal setting. Encourage officers to develop their own goals, and keep them informed about what's happening elsewhere in the organization. This way, they can be sure that their goals are consistent with the overall vision and purpose that the masonic body seeks.

4. Feedback

In addition to selecting the right type of goal, an effective goal program must also include feedback. Feedback provides opportunities to clarify expectations, adjust goal difficulty, and gain recognition. It's important to provide benchmark opportunities or targets, so individuals can determine for themselves how they're doing. These regular progress reports, which measure specific success along the way, are particularly important where it's going to take a long time to reach a goal. In these cases, break down the goals into smaller chunks, and link feedback to these intermediate milestones. With all your goal setting efforts, make sure that you build in time for providing formal feedback. Certainly, informal check-ins are important, and they provide a means of giving regular encouragement and recognition. However, taking the time to sit down and discuss goal performance is a necessary factor in long-term performance improvement.

5. Task Complexity

The last factor in goal setting theory introduces two more requirements for success. For goals or assignments that are highly complex, take special care to ensure that the work doesn't become too overwhelming. Officers and members who work in complicated and demanding roles probably have a high level of motivation already. However, they can often push themselves too hard if measures aren't built into the goal expectations to account for the complexity of the task. It's therefore important to do the following:

- Give the officer or member sufficient time to meet the goal or improve performance.
- Provide enough time for the officer or member to practice or learn what is expected and required for success.

The whole point of goal setting is to facilitate succession your Masonic body. Therefore, you want to make sure that the conditions surrounding the goals don't frustrate or inhibit the officers or members from accomplishing their objectives.

Goal setting is something most of us recognize as necessary for our success. Use clear, challenging goals, and commit yourself to achieving them. Provide feedback on goal performance. Take into consideration the complexity of the task. If you follow these simple rules, your goal setting process will be much more successful ... and your overall performance in your masonic body will improve.

A History of the KNIGHT TEMPLAR APRON

by M. III. Ron Blaisdell, KYGCH

Originally Published in "The Knight Templar" Magazine, August, 1989

Introduction

My first introduction to the Knight Templar Apron was made on my first visit to the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia. There in the ante room to the Lodge is a large portrait of Lafayette wearing a black apron featuring the skull and cross bones. After a bit of inquiry, I was informed that the apron was that of a Knight Templar, which was one of the many orders into which Lafayette was received while he visited the United States during the Colonial Revolution. I was also told that there were three other Knight Templar aprons in the Memorial, located in the Chapter Room.

There are at least two examples of the Knight Templar Apron in Michigan. One in the possession of the historical room of Detroit Commandery #1, and one in the collection of the Jackson Masonic Temple. It was at the later location that I was encouraged to write on the history of the Knight Templar Apron by Past Grand Commander Jack MacDonald of the Grand Commander of Michigan, and to him I am deeply indebted.

Early History

While little has been written on the dress of the early Templars, prior to Thomas Smith Webb's "Monitor" of 1797, there has been one suggestion has to the origin of the Templar Apron. In early references to the history of Templary in Great Britain, the following significant reference is made:

All Templar encampments were qualified to give the degrees of the "Rose Croix" and the "Kadosh" which had existed in England as Templar degrees years before the establishment of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. In the original form of the Templar Ceremonies, the "Rose Croix de Herodom (sic)" was one step above the Templar installation, followed by the "Kadosh"...1



The significant herein is the fact that Templary was related under British Masonry to the Rose Croix and Kadosh degrees. The Rose Croix apron is described as follows:

White lined in Black and outlined in Red. On the white side depicting a pelican feeding her young. On the black side a red Latin cross. (Northern Masonic Jurisdiction)

Thus giving us an early look at the potential design of the Knight Templar apron prior to Webb's "Monitor". Additionally, it is known that the Templar degrees were worked in this country "under the sanction of the warrant of 'Blue' Lodges."² This being fact, it is possible that the Knight Templar apron was a direct result of the modification of the Symbolic Lodges apron to fit the ritualistic legends of the Templar Orders.

The First "Standard"

The first written "standard" for the Knight Templar apron was published in Thomas Smith Webb's "Monitor" of 1797. (Interesting side note: Webb was only 26 years old when this work was published!). In this volume (and subsequent reissues) Webb describes the apron as "White, with a

black border; or black, with a white border. The flap black, and a skull and cross bones embroidered in silver thereon."³ It is to Webb that the first standards of Masonic ritual and ceremony are attributed as his "Webb work" recast some of the degrees, and completely reconstructed others. Webb's "standard" was accepted by the early Templars, and it was not until after the formation of the Grand Encampment, and its subsequent publishing of the general statutes of 1839, that a new permanent design was agreed upon.

In Chapter 4 of the General Statutes of the Grand Encampment, the following description can be found of the Templar Uniform:

Article 1. The costume of a Knight Templar shall consist of a full suit of black, dress coat and pantaloons, white cravat, black gloves, boots, and gilt spurs, all over a white surcoat, on the left breast of which shall be embroidered a red cross; and undress military cap, and on the front a Templar cross; a cross-hilted sword, the scabbard of black leather suspended from a black velvet or leather baldrick (sic), a short dagger on the left side, a black velvet apron of triangular form, having on the centre a patriarchal cross, and on the flap a skull and cross bones all in silver. The edging of the aprons and collars shall be gold for Grand Bodies, and of silver for Subordinate Commanderies.⁴

There is some doubt as to the adoption of this resolution by all Commanderies subordinate to the Grand Encampment. In the 1859 edition of "The Craftsman, and Freemason's Guide" by Cornelius Moore the apron is described as "An Apron of black velvet of a triangular form, trimmed in silver lace. On the top or flap is a triangle, with twelve holes perforated through it; in the center of the triangle is a cross and serpent; on the center of the apron is a scull (sic) and cross bones, and at equal distance from them, in a triangular form, a star with seven points; in the center of each star a red cross."⁵ The lack of an accepted standard caused the Grand Encampment to enact the famous "Digest of Decisions".

The "Digest of Decisions"

At the Grand Encampment in 1847 William Blackstone Hubbard was elected as Grand Master. Frater Hubbard was singularly dedicated to Templary, and applied his many business skills to the development of the Grand Encampment. A Jurist by trade, his twelve years as Grand Master were marked with decisions that set a regulated tone to the proceedings of the Grand Encampment. Never one for "fuss and feathers", Hubbard desired that the Templars become a respected order. In a method to reach that means, Sir Knight Hubbard issued his famous "Digest of Decisions" at the 14th Triennial of the Grand Encampment on September 9, 1856. The "Digest" covered three subjects: Dress, Work, and Discipline of Templar Masonry. The first area, "Dress" was not legislated upon until the conclaves of 1859 and 1862. The conclave of 1859 issued the first regulations concerning the standard uniform of Knight Templar's, this was revised however in 1862 and the "Edict on the Uniform of a Knight Templar" was issued.

The "Edict" of 1859/1862 made many major changes in the uniform of a Knight Templar. The original edict in 1859 changed the frock coat from black to white, and simultaneously abolished the wearing of the Knight Templar apron. In 1862 the edict was changed to reflect the now standard black frockcoat that is worn by subordinate Commanderies. A provision was made in the edicts of 1859/1862 to allow Commanderies formed before 1859 to still wear the old or "black" uniform.

In his address to the Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of the State of Michigan on June 5, 1860, N.P. Jacobs, Grand Commander, made his report to the Grand Body regarding this new edict.

Great and material changes were made in regard to the dress and equipments of Knights Templar.

These changes I wish to bring to your notice, that such actions may be taken by you as will produce uniformity therein, and conformity to the requirements of the Grand Encampment. These changes are radical, and the costume there adopted will undoubtedly remain the standard for all time to come.⁶

The mixed rule of "black" and "white" (those Commanderies formed after 1859) uniforms continued until 1872. In that year J. Q. A. Fellows, Grand Master, felt it was his duty to enforce a uniform dress in the Order, and issued his decree requiring all Commanderies in the United States which were using the "black uniform" to abandon it, and to adopt the "white uniform". A single exception was made to this ruling, and that was to Washington Commandery #1 of the District of Columbia. This sole Commandery was allowed to continue to wear the Knight Templar apron. Today, the Commandery only wears its aprons on special occasions and installations.

Opposition to the Edict of 1862

There was much opposition to the uniform change in Commanderies where the "black uniform" was



in use. The Grand Master's interpretation of the statute of the Grand Encampment was doubted and denied, and the order was disobeyed by most if not all Commanderies still wearing the "black uniform". Dr. Albert Mackey was in direct opposition to the ruling of the Grand Master and expressed his views in the December, 1872 issue of the National Freemason.

Previous to the year 1859 the costume of the Knights Templar of this country was determined only by a traditional rule, and consisted of a black dress, with the richly decorated baldric and apron; the latter intended to show the connection which existed between the Order and Ancient Craft Masonry.

In 1856, at Hartford, a new Constitution was proposed and adopted, with the exception of the part that referred to costume. Sir Knight Mackey, from the committee on the Constitution, made a report on the subject of dress, as a part of the Constitution; but the considerations of this report was postponed until the next triennial meeting. The changes in costume proposed by

the committee were not very great; the baldric and the essential apron were preserved, and a white tunic, not hitherto used, was recommended.

At the session of 1859, at Chicago, the subject of dress was alluded to by the Grand Master in his address; and his remarks, together with the report of the committee made in 1856 were referred to a special committee of seven, of which the Grand Master was chairman, and Sir Knights Doyle, Pike, Simons, Mackey, Morris, and French were the members.

This committee reported a uniform which made material differences in the dress theretofore worn, and especially by the rejection of the apron and the introduction of a white tunic and white cloak. These last were favorite notions of Grand Master Hubbard, and they were adopted by the committee mainly in deference to his high authority.

The proposed measure met at first with serious opposition, partly on account of the rejection of the apron, which many Templars then held, as they do now, to be an essential feature of Masonic Templarism, and a tangible record of the union at a specific period in history of the two Orders; but mainly, perhaps, on account of the very heavy expense and inconvenience which would devolve

on the old Commanderies, if they were required at once to throw aside their old dress and provide a new one.

This opposition was only quelled by the agreement on a compromise, by which the old Commanderies were to be exempted from the operation of the law. The regulations for the new costume were then passed, and the compromise immediately after adopted in the words of Sir Knight Doyle, who was one of the committee.⁷

Such was the nature of this disagreement that it continued until the twenty-third triennial in 1886 when Grand Master Charles Roome returned the control of uniforms back to the subordinate Grand Commanderies. Yet even after this measure, no additional Commanderies adopted the use of the Knight Templar apron as Dr. Mackey purported, save Washington #1.

The Symbolism of the Knight Templar Apron

Deeply rooted in the heritage of the ancient Templars, the Knight Templar apron draws its symbolism from the past, to create a tie between those ancient Templars and the modern Masonic Knight Templar. The black of the apron reminds the Sir Knight of the martyrdom of Jacques De-Molai, and the central, and most striking emblem of the apron the skull and crossed bones - the symbol of the last of mortality.

The skull and crossed bones were adopted as an emblem of the ancient Templars between the third and fourth crusade. The legend is one based on love, and is handed down as thus:

According to legend, a Templar fell in love with a beautiful noblewoman of Maraclea. She died before they could be married, but he could not endure to be separated from her, and dug up the body, and with full ceremonies married what was left of the corpse. After the body was reburied and he returned home, a voice came to him in a dream and told him to return in nine years. When he returned, he found only the skull and two large leg bones preserved enough to be moved. The voice spoke to him again and told him to guard and keep them always, and he would be successful in all his undertakings. Thereafter he prospered greatly and defeated all his enemies.

The skull and bones was passed on to the Templars at his death, and as mentioned was credited with their rise to affluence and power.⁸

So impressive is the skull and crossed bones on the apron, it was the first object to attract my attention in the portrait of Lafayette, and that which lead to further light in Masonry.

Bibliography

Brown, William Moseley. "Theories Connecting Chivalric Freemasonry with the Medieval Order of Knights Templar". Highlights of Templar History. First Edition. Greenfield, Indiana: W. Mitchell Printing Co.; 1944. 35-40.

Brown, William. "The Scull and Cross Bones". Alexandria, Virginia: George Washington Masonic Memorial Association; 1988. 2-3.

"Chapter 4 - General Statutes". Proceedings of the General Grand Encampment Knights Templar United States 1816 to 1856. New Orleans; 1860. 309.

Gould, Robert Freke. "Grand Encampment of the United States from 1856". The History of Freemasonry. W. J. Hagan, et al editors. Volume IV. Philadelphia: John C. Yorston & Co.; 1896. 601-602.

Mackenzie, Kenneth. "Black", "Skull", "Symbols". The Royal Masonic Cyclopaedia. Revised Edition. Masonic Classic Series. Worcester, Great Britain: The Aquarian Press; 1987. 75, 677, 707.

Mackey, Albert G. "Knights Templar, Masonic". An Encyclopedia of Freemasonry and its Kindred Sciences. William J.

Hugan, et al editors. Seventh Edition. Volume #1. Chicago: The Masonic History Co.; 1921. 412-414.

---. "History of the Grand and Subordinate Commanderies in the Several States and Territories of the United States". The History of Freemasonry. Second Edition. Volume VI. New York: The Masonic History Company; 1906. 1601-1640.

Mitchell, J. W. S. "Orders of Knighthood". The History of Freemasonry and Masonic Digest. Volume II. New York: Thomas Holman Printer; 1868. 9-86.

Moore, Cornelius. "Templar's Text Book". The Craftsman, and Freemason's Guide. Fourteenth Edition. Cincinnati: Jacob Ernst and Company; 1859. 262.

Moore, Lt. Col. W. J. B. "British Templary". History of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, and Concordant Orders. Henry Leonard Stillson, et al editors. Revised Edition. Boston: The Fraternity Publishing Company; 1907. 773.

"Proceeding of 1862". Proceedings of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar for the United States of America 1859-1868. New York; 1871. 45-50.

"Regular Conclave of the Grand Commandery of June 5, 1860". Reprint of the Proceedings of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of the State of Michigan from its Formation June, 1858 to and including Conclave of 1871. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eaton, Lyon & Allen Printing Co.; 1885. 65.

Speed, Frederic. "Origin of American Templary and Early Grand Encampments". History of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons and Concordant Orders. Henry Leonard Stillson, et al editors. Revised Edition. Boston: The Fraternity Publishing Company; 1907. 699, 702.

Waite, Arthur Edward. "Knight of the Temple". A New Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry. Combined Edition. New York: Weathervane Books; 1970. 458.

Webb, Thomas Smith. "Observations on the Orders of Knights Templars, and Knights of Malta". The Freemason's Monitor. Salem: Cushing and Appleton Publishing; 1821. III-236.

Footnotes

1 "History of Freemasonry and Concordant Orders", Fraternity Publishing Company, Boston, 1907, Lt. Col. W. J. B. MacLeod Moore, Supreme Grand Master of the Grand Priory of Canada, p773.

2 *ibid*, Frederic Speed, Past Grand Commander - Mississippi, p702.

3 "The Freemason's Monitor; or Illustrations of Masonry in two parts", Thomas Smith Webb, Cushing and Appleton Publishers, Salem, Mass., 1821, p236.

4 "Proceedings of the General Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States 1816 to 1856", New Orleans, 1860, p309.

5 "The Craftsman, and Freemason's Guide", Cornelius Moore, 14th Standard Edition, Jacob Ernst and Company, Cincinnati, 1859, p262.

6 "Reprint of the Proceedings of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of the State of Michigan, from its Formation June, 1858 to and including Conclave of 1871", Eaton, Lyon & Allen Printing Co., Grand Rapids, Mich., 1885, p65.

7 "An Encyclopedia of Freemasonry and its Kindred Sciences", Albert G. Mackey, The Masonic History Company, Chicago, 1921, pp412-413.

8 "Famous Crimes in History", Allen Edwards, et al., as quoted in "The Scull and Cross Bones", William Brown, Past Grand High Priest - Virginia, Curator, George Washington Masonic Memorial.



York Rite The Continuation of Blue Lodge...If you wish to continue your Masonic Education and find the Lost Word, contact a York Rite Mason in your Blue Lodge.

THOUGHTS FOR MEDITATION

by the Grand Chaplain of the Grand Council

The first rays of the sun shone through the openings of the drapes, announcing that it was going to be a beautiful day. My daughter was going outside to play in the yard when she saw something that stunned her: a beautiful sunflower. It had sprouted from some sunflower seeds we had left in the yard. This was the first time Rebecca had seen a sunflower, and she stretched out her hands to the sky and thanked God for such beauty.

She was only three years old, but she saw God's greatness in the beauty of that flower. Until the day the flower died, she insisted on praising God for it every morning. Her ritual reminded us that each new day is a wonderful gift from God.

The memory of this scene has accompanied me through the years and has shown me that even when life seems rough, there are always sunflowers - reminders of the goodness of God that illuminate our existence and renew our hope. We can recognize in simple things the sign of our Creator.

When Nehemiah heard that the walls surrounding Jerusalem had been destroyed and the people were in disarray, he "wept and mourned for days." Then he fasted and prayed, reminding God of the covenant God made with Moses to gather the scattered people of Israel in one place.

I feel certain that Nehemiah, being a busy man in the king's court, had many conflicting interests and duties pressing upon him that day. However, the cry of the people of Jerusalem captured his heart and became the consuming passion of Nehemiah's life.

In today's world, instant communication makes us aware of many kinds of suffering and injustice. I feel a heavy burden when I hear about the suffering of people around the world. Some are injured in war or natural calamity; others starve; still others have no homes; many others suffer great pain from accident or disease.

Rather than being frustrated that I can do so little to ease the pain of so many, I ask God to guide me to a place where my gifts can do the most good.

On behalf of The Florida York Rite Mason, our condolences and prayers to the family members of the following Grand York Rite leaders and Ladies that passed away during 2007-2008:

M. W. Keith Dean, Past III. Grand Master

M. E. Federick Young, Past Grand High Priest

M. III. John W. Carroll, Sr., Past III. Grand Master

**Lady Barbara Malone, wife of our Most Illustrious
Grand Master, George E. Malone**

M.E. Ewell Langdale, Past Grand High Priest



Upcoming York Rite EVENTS

York University



When: July 25-27, 2008

Where: Lake Mary Marriott

Tentative Tuition:

- \$335.00 per couple
- \$275.00 per single

Includes:

- 2 Nights in Hotel
- 3 Meals
- Seminar Notebook



Contact Walter Hammond For Additional Information

Important Dates to Remember

April 27-30, 2008	Grand York Rite Convocation Florida	Orlando
May 4-7, 2008	Grand York Rite Convocation Georgia	Macon
May 26-28, 2008	Grand Lodge of Florida	Orlando
June 13-14, 2008	South Eastern York Rite Conference	Orlando
June 23, 2008	St. John the Baptist	
July 13-15, 2008	Great Smokey Summer Assembly	Maggie Valley
July 25-27, 2008	York University	Lake Mary
August 27-30, 2008	General Grand Chapter Triennial	Indianapolis
September 22-26, 2008	Social Order of Beauceant	Tampa

Tuesday, June 24, 2008
St. John the Baptist Day

Remember to celebrate the day of one of our patron Saints by remembering your Masonic obligations and their relationship to your life.



SCHEDULE OF 2008 - 2009 YORK RITE DISTRICT MEETINGS

Friday, June 20, 2008	DISTRICT	No. 1
Saturday, June 21, 2008	DISTRICT	No. 2
Friday, July 18, 2008	DISTRICT	No. 4
Saturday July 19, 2008	DISTRICT	No. 3
Friday, August 15, 2008	DISTRICT	No. 6
Saturday, August 16, 2008	DISTRICT	No. 5
Friday September 19, 2008	DISTRICT	No. 7
Saturday, September 20, 2008	DISTRICT	No. 8
Friday October 17, 2008	DISTRICT	No. 10
Saturday, October 18, 2008	DISTRICT	No. 9

Florida York Rite Mason of the Year

Companions and Sir Knights:

We all work diligently for our Masonic Fraternity, in general, and York Rite Freemasonry, in particular. There are Companions or Sir Knights that go above and beyond their duties to help their local York Rite Bodies. Some times, these Companions and Sir Knights don't get the recognition they deserve.

The Florida York Rite Mason would like to recognize these York Rite Mason in their ninth issue. The local York Rite Bodies will have sufficient time to evaluate and submit the name of the Companion and/or Sir Knight to the Communications Committee. Further instructions and information will be given in our next issue.

NAME THAT TUNE

Match the Movie with the correct Tune

1. Die Hard _____ a. Richard Wagner's "Ride of The Valkyries".
2. Moonraker _____ b. Beethoven's Ninth Symphony
3. 2001: A Space Odessy _____ c. Ravel's Bolero
4. Apocalypse Now _____ d. Tchaikovsky's "Romeo & Juliet".
5. 10 _____ e. Strauss's Opening of "Also sprach Zarathustra".

Answers: a. 4 b. 1 c. 5 d. 2 e. 3



BE OPTIMISTIC

It's good for your health.



Remember in your prayers our Men and Women in the Armed Forces.

**THE TASK AHEAD OF YOU,
IS NEVER AS GREAT
AS THE POWER BEHIND
YOU.**



**The Florida York Rite Mason
Grand York Rite Bodies
P. O. Box 2740
Lake Placid, FL 33862-2740**

To have your Article, Event(s), News, Announcements , etc, published, please forward to them, to the following Companions, on or before the next deadline: **David A. Aponte - daponte1@tampabay.rr.com ; Charles "Chic" Cicero - Ciceros@tampabay.rr.com or Ron Blaisdell - ron@Blaisdell.com**

Deadline for Next Issue June 15th, 2008

In our next Issue: Educational Article on King's Solomon's Temple

The Florida York Rite Mason is the official E-Magazine of the Florida York Rite Bodies. Published by the Grand York Rite Communication Committee. Its members are S.K. David A. Aponte (Grand Jr. Warden), S.K. Charles C. Ciceo (Grand Sr. Warden), and M. III. Ron Blaisdell, Grand Chaplain of the Grand Council.