

ARKANSAS SUPPLEMENT



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Lafayette #7 - A Juggernaut in 2009



Thirteen Brothers and Companions became Sir Knights of the Order of the Temple on October 21st of 2009 in Pine Bluff. Of those, two were courtesy for Hugh de Payens in Little Rock, and one more will eventually become a member in Little Rock. The Orders of Red Cross and Malta were conferred by PC T.J. Henwood, and the Order of the Temple was conferred by ESK, and Most Worshipful, Ronnie Hedge.

In Memorium

The Grand Commandery of Arkansas mourns the loss of:

Past Grand Commander Jesse C. Ephlin

Who was called to his refreshment in the Grand Lodge above on November 4, 2009. Right Eminent Sir Knight Ephlin served as Grand Commander in 1998.

Editor's note: This information was received too late for the Dec. 2009 issue.

January 2010

**R.: E.: Grand Commander
Burt F. Lee**



Greetings, Sir Knights:

Again this year, our Grand Commander is asking his officer line to write these articles, in turn. This month's article is from our Grand Warder, ESK Ronald Schmidt. *Editor*

Greeting The New Year

Companions and Sir Knights, we have just celebrated a momentous occasion...the Birth of Christ the Savior. What a glorious day! I hope every one of us, especially every York Rite Mason, was on his knees thanking God for all the blessing He bestowed upon us. What a glorious country the Lord our God gave us to live in. Let us attend the church of our choice and rejoice.

Many of us, me included, visited our children and grandchildren in another state enjoying that special time together. Now it's time to get back to reality! We have to pay for those presents we gave to them.

Many of us celebrated New Years Day with family and friends. This is the beginning of a new and spotless year and with it a new beginning for our Masonic organizations. This is a chance to bring in new members, to remember our New Years resolutions and to act on them. You didn't forget them already, did you?

Sir Knights, I encourage every one of you to attend your York Rite meetings and more particularly, ask to take part in the Chapter and Council Degrees or Commandery Orders. The best way to gain knowledge is by participating. Participation also gives you a greater sense of belonging. We join organizations because we believe we can add a value to that organization.

I also encourage all of you to participate in your symbolic lodges. Take a chair, participate in fund raisers, participate in degree work, be on a cleanup, paint up, fix up committee. Remember, York Rite obtains its membership from the symbolic lodges. If we show enthusiasm for our York Rite bodies by talking about them in the symbolic lodges, we can gain members. I've heard it said many times "Every Christian Mason needs to belong to the York Rite". If every member just got one Mason to join we would double the membership. Doesn't sound very difficult, does it? That will work in the symbolic lodges as well.

Courteously Yours,

S. K. Ronald Schmidt
Eminent Grand Warder