

MARYLAND SUPPLEMENT



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Sir Knights,

April promises to be a busy month. We start the month with PGC Phil Tilson's Memorial Service at Collingwood on Thursday April 2nd. The memorial service is scheduled for 12:15 P.M. However, please plan on arriving by 11:30 AM so we may set the honor guard and assemble before marching in. The Knight Templar Memorial Service will be followed by a Blue Lodge Service. Later at 3:00 P.M. there will be a service at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

Good Friday is one of our obligatory religious observances. I know how hard it is to arrange these sometimes, but this year the Baltimore Commanderies will hold their observance at Bonnie Blink and all are invited to attend. A dinner will be served at 6:00 P.M. followed by a presentation of the **Living Last Supper** at 7:30 P.M. in the Bonnie Blink Chapel. For details call PGCs Coker or Naegele.

On Sunday April 12th the Grand Encampment will host the annual Sunrise Service at the George Washington Memorial Masonic National in Alexandria Virginia. For those Sir Knights who do not like to drive in the vicinity of DC, PGC Aughenbaugh has arranged for bus service from the Baltimore area. The bus will leave from the Beltway Plaza Shopping Center (US 1 at I-695) at 5:30 A.M. and from the MD 100 Marc train station at 6:00 A.M. Contact PGC Ron Aughenbaugh at 410-381-1669 for additional information. If you chose choose to drive, please arrive at the George Washington Memorial no later than 7:15 A.M. The Commanderies will step off to pass in review at 7:30 A.M. The service should be over by 9:00 A.M. Maryland will again be forming the black passion cross in a sea of white plumes. The service is very impressive, and open to the public. Bring a friend or family member to share this wonderful experience.

Our next Grand Visitations are scheduled as follows: April 8, Chesapeake

Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend the Semi-Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery. This is a required meeting for all Diaz Officers. All Sir Knights are also encouraged to attend and see what their Grand Commandery Officers are doing. This meeting is important since we will vote on the proposed budget for the coming year, going over the updated Constitution presented at the Annual Sessions and voting on it. Not least we are electing officers for the upcoming year. Each of the Constituent Commanderies has been invited to have their incoming Diaz Officers installed by the Grand Commandery. This is an old tradition that dropped by the wayside and which I would like to see revived and participated in by all of our Commanderies around the state.

The date has been set for the Tri-State Orders at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. Mark your calendars for August 28 – 29th in Valley Forge. Check-in is on Friday evening and the Orders will be conferred on Saturday. Maryland will again start the day off with the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross. This is an especially enjoyable event. Come out and be a part of it.

We are hoping to take some of the pressure off the Companions who have so faithfully made the **Fervency and Zeal** presentations to the Lodges. These Brothers are responsible for enlisting many York Rite members. To augment their efforts, Ken Wyville is organizing teams to make a Commandery presentation to the Blue Lodges. This will include providing a color guard to present the flag for the opening and to give a short talk on the flag. Please contact Ken if you would like details or to participate.

With so much going on as we join with family and friends to celebrate this very Holy Season and the beginning of spring, don't forget those who are less fortunate. Offer a helping hand to the distressed and fallen. Remember our basic tenant of Brotherly Love and put it into practice.

In closing, I ask that you remember the men and women in our Armed Forces serving in so many places around the world. They have sacrificed so much for our safety. With so much unrest and hostility in the world, I encourage you to say an extra prayer for them and their families wherever they are.

Fraternally yours in Christ,
Thomas G. Heimiller, REGC