

## MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND SUPPLEMENT



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### GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE – July, 2011

Summer has finally arrived and we are on a semi-hiatus from our Masonic activities. I sincerely hope that everyone is taking time to relax and enjoy the warm weather with their families and loved ones.

With all of the hard work that everyone has put in over the last year we deserve a break, and there is no better way to achieve this than to attend the Grand Commander's Pig Roast hosted by Berkshire Commandery on July 9 at the Masonic Hall in Lee, Mass. If you haven't been before you've missed a great time with warm fellowship and delicious food, all of which is donated so all of the proceeds go to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. I hope to see you there.

We will be joining Trinity-Natick Commandery and marching as a unit in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade in Natick. We will be meeting at 8:00AM at the Masonic Hall in Natick to be transported to the starting point. After the parade, a lunch will be provided by Trinity-Natick Commandery. I hope to see many of you there.

Once again I want to wish everyone a pleasant, enjoyable, and relaxing summer.

Courteously and fraternally yours,  
Ted Bitomski

### Grand Prelate's Message

What Is This Thing Called Faith?

The dictionary says faith is belief, trust and fidelity. The Bible says faith is the substance of things hoped for; the evidence of things not seen. Why do we need faith? We need faith because without faith it is impossible to please God. We cannot pray to God if we don't believe in Him.

Faith is necessary to our salvation. "Believe and be saved". There are two kinds of faith in regard to salvation: Head faith and heart faith. Head faith is knowledge of Christ and a general

acceptance of the Bible. Heart faith is faith from the heart that causes a person to act on his faith. We are saved by faith, we receive Christ by faith, we justified by faith, we become children of God by faith, we are sanctified by faith, we are kept by the power of God through faith. The question for us Christians is not - "What can I do?" But-"How big is my Faith"? Read the book of Hebrews, it's a great book. Have faith in Jesus - He Loves You!

Jesus Loves You,  
Herb Simpson  
Grand Prelate

### Grand Commandery Officers' Wives' Association News:

The Grand Commandery Ladies will be sponsoring our Boutique Shop again at the Annual Conclave on October 14-16, 2011, with all proceeds going to the Knights' Templar Eye Foundation. Lady Bernice Dawson will be running the Shop. This is our annual appeal for donations of gift baskets from Commanderies or individuals, with a "Chinese auction" held to determine the winners! We will also welcome donations of homemade craft item decorations, gently-read books, and non-perishable food items to sell.

The Boutique Shop will be open from Friday until late Saturday afternoon, when we will have the drawing for the baskets. If you cannot be there on Friday, kindly get your donation either a Sir Knight or Lady who can deliver it for you! Also, any monetary contributions should be sent directly to *Martha Seavey, GCOWA Treasurer, 50 Thurston Point Road, Gloucester, MA 01930 -1616*. Any questions or other correspondence should be sent to *Bernice Dawson, 19 Swamp Rd., Richmond, MA, 01254*.

Thank you for your continued, generous support!  
Ladies Linda Bitomski and Bernice Dawson

### Berkshire Commandery #22 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Pig Roast!!

One of the most popular of our annual events is the Pig Roast, hosted by Berkshire Commandery No. 22. This year the Roast will take place on Saturday, July 9 at a new Location! It will be at Evening Star Lodge in Lee, MA, which is about 3 miles from Exit 2 on the Mass. Turnpike. We have directions and full particulars on our website

### Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery - 2011

Just a head start on the Annual Conclave this year! We will meet at the Holiday Inn, 10 Hampshire Street, Mansfield. The York Rite Unity Banquet will be on Friday Evening, October 14, 2011, and the Conclave on Saturday, October 15, 2011. Officers for 2012 will be installed following the Saturday luncheon. **Mark your calendars now!!!** Details will be available in the August Supplement.