

ARKANSAS SUPPLEMENT



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AR York Rite College - 2008



The annual conferral meeting of Arkansas York Rite College #142 was held May 17, 2008 at Little Rock. A class of distinguished York Rite Masons was received into the College, including:

Robert A. Burbage; J.W. McLenden, Jr.; Osgood W. Pitts; Jarrod R. Adkisson; W. Paul Wilson; Thomas E. Mason; Jerry L. Eubanks; Samuel D. Lattin; and Bert O. Miller. The officers to preside over Arkansas' College for 2008-2009 were installed at this same meeting, and are:
 Timothy J. Henwood, OPC-elect, Governor; Burt F. Lee, Deputy Governor; Royce H. Taylor, Chancellor; Sumner Brashears, OPC, Treasurer; Walter C. Barnhardt, OPC, Secretary; Dale I. Miller, Primate; Theodore R. Solarz, Preceptor; Joseph T. Clements, Jr., Seneschal; MW C. James Graham, Marshal; John R. Koepke, OPC-elect, Sentinel; and Robert L. Jackson & Aaron J. South, Heralds.



**R.: E.: Grand Commander
 Bill A. Jones, PGM**



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 Capt. General, ESK Lee Stringfellow. *Editor*

Sir Knights, Dress Right!

Several days ago I remembered it was my turn to write an article; well actually it was an email from T. J. What could I say in three hundred words and have an impact? All I had to do was board a train heading to some location of monumental importance and, like Abraham Lincoln, successfully write a "Gettysburg Address" short and memorable – yeah right!

Topic? Topic? It struck - write about the uniform. Serving in the military, as many of you did, I was proud of how it looked and how I looked in it. It was neat, well put together and it made a statement to the world - "I was in a proud organization full of rich history and character".

Reading the "Constitution, Statutes, and Disciplinary Rules of THE GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR of Arkansas" apparently the writers believe our uniform should make a statement as well. Descriptions so explicit even the exact standards of buttons are described, exact width of sleeve stripe, and height of collar seen above the coat.

Uniform: "dress of a distinctive design or fashion worn by members of a particular group and serving as a means of identification" – taken from Webster's Dictionary.

Wearing the uniform proper attention should be paid to rules; for instance wear no medals or pins that were not presented from, or specifically approved by, the Grand Encampment. Why - because it is the rule, and needed to maintain UNIFORMITY.

Speaking some years ago with one of the authors of the "Constitution" he said - "some of these uniforms are starting to look like a Mexican General's". I was surprised by his statement until I notice his uniform – all black, only a cord and cross about the neck identified his rank. Cliff Duncan, Departmental Commander, Chairman of the *Committee on the Constitution Revision*; his appearance in uniform spoke volumes of his pride in Knights Templars.

Have you talked to someone about Masonry today - ain't it fun?

Lee Stringfellow,
 Grand Capt. General