

MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND SUPPLEMENT



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GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE – OCTOBER, 2007

Sir Knights:

As the leaves begin to turn, I realize I will soon be turning the leadership of this Grand Commandery to my successor. The last months of my term, however, have been active ones. I accompanied the Grand Master on the ferry to Provincetown in late August to celebrate the Centennial of the laying of the cornerstone of the Pilgrim's monument. There was a full boatload of Masons, more than in 1907, and a good crowd greeted us on the dock and on the march up to the Monument. The Commandery chapeau on parade seems to make quite an impression. Senator Kerry delivered a well-prepared speech and two ladies were present who had been there in 1907.

Attending the Scottish Rite Supreme Council joint meeting in August with the Southern jurisdiction at the Washington Hilton was made even more momentous by the change in leadership of the Grand Encampment which occurred at the same time in one of the Hotel's suites. At 3:00 PM on the 28th SK Richard Baldwin resigned as Grand Master for health reasons and at 4:00 PM SK William Howard Koon, II, the Deputy Grand Master was installed the Grand Master by SK Thurman Pace HPGM. The other Grand officers moved up and SK Duane Vaught, the Grand Master of Indiana, was appointed Grand Captain General.

Grand Master Koon is a capable leader with sound plans for the future of Grand Encampment, particularly with regard to fundraising for the Eye Foundation, which he shared with us at the Northeast Department Conference in Mystic, CT. Our Grand Commandery was the only Grand Commandery with all its dais officers present as required and SK Bob Winterhalter's store did a roaring business.

In this last month the Division officers and I have attempted to present as many Past Commander certificates as possible in the outgoing Commander's home Commandery rather than en masse at the Grand Conclave so that more of his own members can show their appreciation for his service. Also on my agenda have been parades in Marlboro, North Adams and Woonsocket as well as the New York Conclave in Buffalo. The parades in Marlboro on Labor Day and at the Octoberfest in Woonsocket are a first for the Grand Commandery.

In concluding this message and summing up my Year, I would state that I set a full plate for my year. In some areas I accomplished what I intended. In the areas where I was not so successful, I am pleased that my successor has included some of them in his plans. But what pleased me most about my Year was the capable and enthusiastic Line of Officers I had behind me. They have loyally supported me in implementing my agenda for the Year and I have thoroughly enjoyed their and their ladies' fellowship. I am confident that the Leadership of our Grand Commandery is in good hands for many years to come.

Courteously,
Sidney Clifford, Jr.
Grand Commander

"CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP"

As we begin another year as Knights of our Christian order of Knights Templar, our thoughts should be on the importance of Christian Fellowship.

The purposes of Christian Fellowship are; to strengthen one another, to encourage one another, to share experiences for the mutual benefits of all, to share our joys that all may rejoice with us, to weep with them that weep, to serve one another, to comfort one another, and to pray for one another.

Let us begin our day with fellowship with God in quiet time, prayer and Bible study. Throughout the week it is good to listen to great radio and TV preachers, but on Sunday mornings we ought to be in our own church sharing our fellowship with those of like Christian faith and fellowship.

As we assemble with our fellow Sir Knights during the coming year, let's put the lessons of this message into practice; it may make a positive difference in someone's life.

Let us first seek fellowship with the Lord in prayer and then with all of God's children.

God Loves you,
Herb Simpson
Grand Prelate

BOUTIQUE TABLE

Once again our thoughts return to the "Boutique Table" for the upcoming Grand Conclave to be held in Hyannis on October 19,20, and 21. We are asking for your financial support. This will enable us once again to have the best "Boutique" at any Conclave with our usual array of baskets, wreaths, crafts and more.

As in the past your Commandery will be credited with the amount of your donation. Should you wish to help the Knights Templar Eye Foundation by a donation, please send your check made out to "GCOWA" and be sure to identify your Commandery. Please note "Boutique Table" on the check and send it to: **Mrs. Robert F. Poyton, 23A Venturi Green, No. Providence, RI 02904-7713.** If you wish to donate a basket in the name of your Commandery, that would also be most welcome.

Thanking you in advance.

Lady Joyce Poyton

GRAND COMMANDERY CONCLAVE

The Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island will be held at the Sheraton-Hyannis Resort, West End Circle, Hyannis, MA 02601.

Presiding Councils' Club Dinner and Fund Raiser, Friday Evening, October 19, 2007.

Annual Conclave, Saturday Morning, October 20, 2007.

Banquet and Installation, Saturday Evening, October 20, 2007.

Church Service and Breakfast, Sunday Morning, October 21, 2007.

Further information is available from your Recorder, the Grand Commandery office, or on the Grand Commandery web site – www.knightstemplar.org/gckt/mari

RECEPTION FOR THE NEW GRAND COMMANDER

Assuming his election and installation as Grand Commander on October 20, 2007, Jerusalem Commandery #19 invites all Sir Knights and Ladies to a reception for S.K. Michael Steven Kaulback on November 10, 2007 at the Fitchburg Masonic Building, 16 Thorndike Street, Fitchburg, MA. The menu is roast beef with a chicken alternate. The cost is \$20 per person. Reservations are required by November 3 and may be made by sending your check to Jerusalem Commandery #19, c/o Martha Kaulback, 47 South Street, Leominster, MA 01453.