



April, 2008

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Sir Knights,
We have reached the final month of the Knight Templar Eye Campaign. I sincerely hope that when I get the final report, it will show that Kentucky did improve over our previous year's giving.
I will have started my visits to the constituent commanderies. Hopefully, I will surprise some of you and arrive when you least expect me. This is not to alarm you, but hopefully that you will be ready to put your best foot forward for Templar Masonry in Kentucky.
This is the seventh month of my year, and time is rapidly moving on us. Let us make and keep our commanderies strong for the balance of the year and into next year.
I sincerely hope that all had a good time who went to Washington with us, and that many more of you will take the trip next year with the new Commander, Raleigh .

Foster. If you didn't make the trip, you don't know what you missed. Looking forward to the balance of the year, I remain

Courteously, Daniel L. Coleman, Right Eminent Grand Commander

INSPECTIONS AND OFFICIAL VISITS

While our Chapters and Councils do not have official inspections, each unit hosts a special visit from the Grand Officers or the District or Arch Deputy and many of these are upcoming this spring. Some of our Commandery Inspections have not yet been completed. I do not have the space this month to list the remaining Inspection and Official Visit dates, but I do want to note that your Chapter, Council, and Commandery, each really need and deserve your attendance on this special date each year.

I also need to point out that there will still be a few one-day festivals yet to come within the Commonwealth, and good attendance at these events can only enhance the impression that the new member receives of our organizations.

Annual election of officers is just around the corner and it is not too soon to begin to give attention to those you will select to lead during the 2008-2009 York Rite year. If we want to continue as viable organizations, it is vital that each of us give thought to the capabilities of our potential leaders, as well as our own opportunities to volunteer for these positions. Each of our philanthropies, Eye Foundation, CMMRF and RARA are also deserving of our support and each of us should be directing our attention to the funding of these. Memorial gifts are important, but separate donations are also necessary.

Grand Encampment has a new website located at www.knightstemplar.org. The next time you are on line, check out the site and let them know you visited by signing the guest book.

TEMPLAR ACADEMY

Louisville-DeMolay Commandery will host one of the day long Templar Academy leadership training events in our asylum on Saturday, April 19. Plan now to set this day aside for this opportunity. Every aspiring Commander should take advantage of this opportunity.

FAMILY NIGHT AT KING SOLOMON CHAPTER AND LOUISVILLE COUNCIL

King Solomon Chapter # 5 has decided to host a special family night on the third Wednesday in May, May 21, .and Grand Treasurer Les Black has agreed to present the National Sojourner's Building the Flag slide show. A catered meal will be served at 6:30 P.M. with the program to begin about 8 P. M. This program should be of interest to all family members so a special invitation is issued to wives, children and grandchildren as well as interested friends.

ANNUAL GEORGE WASHINGTON ONE-DAY FESTIVAL

King Solomon Chapter, Louisville Council, and Louisville DeMolay Commandery hosted the annual George Washington Festival on Saturday, February 23. A large crowd gathered before 7 A.M. for coffee and donuts. Deputy Grand Commander Raleigh Foster conferred the Mark Master Degree at 8 A.M., Ralph Lawson, the Past Master and Robert Cecil of Bardstown the Most Excellent Master. Grand High Priest Don Powell, with PGHP J. William Riggs as Principal Sojourner, conferred the Royal Arch Degree using a cast of many of the Grand Chapter Officers.

All present enjoyed a luncheon of cold cut sandwiches, potato chips, pickles, cookies and soft drinks and coffee at noon, provided by the host bodies.

Companion David I. Boone, Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council, conferred the Royal Master Degree and Select Master Degree immediately following lunch. His father, David L. Boone served as Deputy Master while his uncle, Harry Boone, was Conductor of the Council.

Sir Knight Raleigh Foster, PGHP, conferred the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross, and Grand Treasurer Les Black conferred the Order of Malta, both in short form.

Shortly after 2 P.M., a cast mostly made up of members of North Central York Rite College, conferred the Order of the Temple, with PGC G. Michael Miller serving as Commander. Sir Knight James C. Reichert served as Prelate with J. William Ryan, P.C. as Sr. Warden and Ron Skipper, PGHP, as Jr. Warden.

There were twenty-three Master Masons from at least four different chapters who received the Capitular and Cryptic Degrees, while twenty-six were knighted by Sir Knight Miller. All of the work was done in the usual good fashion. The men initiated seemed appreciative of the work presented in this long session. All work was completed by about 5:30 P.M.

Over ninety York Rite Masons participated throughout the day. We particularly appreciate those of our number who helped in the entire production, regardless of their primary allegiance. Our participation in the entire York Rite in Louisville is improving. It is indeed gratifying to see the members most closely associated with a particular unit actively participating in all three. This is the attitude that will continue to help all three to grow.

At this point, your editor has not yet been informed of other one-day festivals in the Commonwealth, but I have heard of several large classes of Master Masons receiving the Chapter degrees in several locations. We noted that the average age of the new members in this class appeared to be slightly younger than in recent years. Perhaps the attention we have been receiving through all sorts of media reports in the last few years is spreading our story to a younger audience.

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