

**District of Columbia Supplement**  
**Sir Knight James W. Mitchell**  
**Right Eminent Grand Commander**  
**Editor: Carter L. Diggs Jr., EPC, GSw.B.**

Sir Knights,

Our New Year has begun and thus far several significant events were completed with success. On January 3, representatives from the York Rite and Scottish Rite: MEGHP Perter Brusoe, MIGM Ken Fuller, S.G.I.G. Leonard Proden and I were invited by the WM Jason Lebowitz of William R Singleton-Hope-Lebanon Lodge No.7 to share brief summaries of our respective District of Columbia Masonic Bodies. A brief history, rationale for joining, degrees/orders conferrals and invitation to join our respective masonic body were discussed.

On January 12 Washington Commandery No 1 conferred the Order of The Red Cross and Order of Malta in short form and the Order of The Temple in long form and knighted seven SIR KNIGHTS. My sincere thanks are extended to SK Palmer, Sr. EC for his oversight, SK Ken Fuller, REPGC for an exceptional role as Prelate, SK Marcel Desroches, Jr REPGC for provisioning, SK Kevin Matthews, VEGDC for opening /closing in Ample Form and cast member and all the other SK cast members who had a long day for conferring an exceptional Order of The Temple. Grand Commandery Officers in attendance included SK Jerry Peeters, REPGC, GR, SK Doug Cohen, GCG, SK Eloi Kpamegan, GJW and I. On January 24, Columbia No 2 elected SK Jack Campbell and his officers for the 2019-2020.

Washington Commandery No 1 hosted the Ladies Night and Annual Anniversary Dinner at the Fairfax Country Club on January 26 with over 60 people in attendance. Exceptional prime rib, crab cakes and three cheese ravioli with very enjoyable music to compliment this event were provided. My thanks are sincerely extended to SKs Phillip Palmer, Sr, Victor Sack and Bruce Gilbert for their making this event very successful and appreciated by all in attendance.

Here some updates for your consideration. **Grand Visitation** will now be held at Singleton Lodge Hall on March 13<sup>th</sup>, dinner starts at 6:30PM and Washington No. 1 will open @7:30PM, Grand Visitation starts @ 8:00PM, Uniform Inspection, Commandery Reports, Installation of Elected/Appointed Officers in Uniform and Potomac #3 will close. This change is made to accommodate prior events I was not aware of. The **York Rite Sessions** are scheduled for March 15 and 16 and held at the Singleton Masonic Hall with our KT Session starting at 1:00PM on the 16<sup>th</sup>. The Order of the Knight Preceptor will be conferred after the KT Grand Session. All past and current commanders consult your recorder for information to obtain a petition or please respond to a previous mailed petition. **Our Knight Templar Eye Foundation Fund Drive Chairman is SK Roger Cundiff, EPC** and will end in April 2019. Our previous KTEF Fund Drive collected over \$4,000.00. Can we exceed these contributions?? How are our **Committee Reports** progressing?

Here my observations and comments for your consideration. Our newly elected officers should become familiar with their **Commandery Bylaws and the DC KT Constitution. Plan** your program and then execute your program. **Know** your

opening and start your conclave on time and close at a reasonable hour. **Enlist** your Sir Knights to personally contact their friends among Master Masons and invite them to York Rite Membership. **Organize** your conclave to promote interest for your regular membership and to capture the excitement of your new Sir Knights **Keep working and do not become discouraged!** Do not ask any Sir Knight to do anything that you are not willing and can do yourself. **You are the Leader.**

**Each Officer should:** Fill his station at all stated conclaves (unless excused for reasonable cause); **Be proficient** in his station in the opening and closing ritual and floor work; **Know, understand and strive** to be proficient in his duties at stated conclaves (method of introductions, balloting etc.); **Promote** training in leadership and management for his junior officers and other Sir Knights; **Present** a short presentation (10 minutes) on a KT or Masonic subject or item of interest to the attendees and **develop and implement** various activities for including family and friends during your tenure. **Whatever you do, whatever you try, DO IT WITH ENTHUSIASM!!**

Did you know that Grand Officers are members of our Constituent Commanderies and should attend their associated Commandery's conclaves? All Sir Knights should routinely visit our DC KT conclaves as well as our other York Rite, Scottish Rite and Blue Lodges to observe how our brothers/companions conduct business, programs, education and socialize.

In 1816 individual Templars met in New York City and formed **the GRAND ENCAMPMENT of the USA**. The first Grand Master was SK Dewitt Clinton of Erie Canal fame and he served until 1828. Our DC Grand Commandery was organized on January 14, 1896. Washington No 1 Chartered January 14, 1825, Columbia No 2 Chartered January 7, 1865 and Potomac No. 3 Chartered September 22, 1871. In 1948 we had 2322 members. **As of April 2018, per the KTEF we had 214 Sir Knights.**

**I will again ask:** Do the Knight Templar Orders of Christian Knighthood depict the Christian Mason's belief in Jesus Christ? As Knight Templars do we believe Jesus Christ will raise the dead to life, and in His Holy Name the **TRUE WORD** is found and restored at last? Make your 2019 New Year eventful and remember, **every CHRISTIAN MASON should be a KNIGHT TEMPLAR SIR KNIGHT. Have you asked a Christian Mason to join the York Rite and become a Knight Templar???**

**Colossians 3:1-7**

WITH ALL KNIGHTLY COURTESY,

*James W. Mitchell*

**Grand Commander 2018-2019**  
**Grand Commandery of Knights Templar**  
**of the District of Columbia**

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