



March, 2018

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Sir Knights,

Let me begin this month's newsletter by welcoming to our ranks the new Sir Knights dubbed across the Commonwealth during the month of February. As Grand Commander, I would commend you on achieving this distinction. You are now part of an Order 'founded on the Christian religion, and the practice of the Christian virtues.' Let the memory of the ceremonies through which you have passed remain ever before you, and

remain ever before you, and continue His faithful soldiers, Sir Knights, until death. Your faithful attendance and enthusiastic involvement are much needed within our organization. We trust that you have been drawn to our organization by the 'Good Work' we are doing, that you found 'Good Work' being performed as you went through our ceremonies, and that at the end of the day, you found the true Light of Masonry. May our Good Works ever be done to glorify the One who is the Great Captain of our Salvation.

March brings a number of opportunities to Kentucky's knights. One is the East Central Department Conference which will be held on March 10 in Fort Wayne, Indiana. This will be our last conference under the leadership of Grand Master Duane Vaught and Department Commander Loren Winn. These are well designed and informative sessions. Concurrent with this event is the Emerging Leaders training. We are fortunate to have such a program available to us, and I encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity to participate in the program. Another is the annual Easter Pilgrimage, which begins on March 30. Sir Knights Bill Ryan and Mike Yount have plans well in hand for the trip. The cost this year is \$250 per person for double occupancy. Registration forms are on the website and all monies are to be sent to the Grand Recorder this year. Further information about the trip is on our website and will be updated as plans are solidified.

Let me encourage you as well to make plans for the 67th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment which will take place in August, in Indianapolis, Indiana. This is about as close to us as it gets for a number of years, Sir Knights, and if you'd like to attend a Triennial, this will be an excellent opportunity.

We are beginning our annual inspection cycle. Just a reminder, this includes Inspection and pass in review. I am aware that a number of commanderies do not perform these maneuvers on a regular basis, and they can be awkward and confusing to attempt with low attendance; however, they are a part of the full form opening and are something that every commandery should be able to perform. We have provided material for your Division Commanders to assist in their Schools of Instruction, and my officers and I are willing to work with you. Doing 'Good Work' is sometimes difficult, but I have seen the quality of the knights who are in our asylums. A challenge made is a challenge met, and I have full confidence that this challenge will be met as well. received with so much warmth. It speaks to the character of the men who make up the York Rite, especially the Commandery.

Sir Knights, it is a humbling experience to visit in your asylums and be received with so much warmth.

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It speaks to the character of the men who make up the York Rite, especially the Commandery, that wherever I travel, you make it feel like home when I get there. Wherever the road may lead in years to come for this 'traveling man', being your Grand Commander is an experience I will never forget and will forever cherish. May God richly bless each of you and the Good Work that you continue to do in His name. Courteously, Randall Partin Grand Commander

EAST CENTRAL DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE

The 2018 conference will be March 9-10 at the Hilton Fort Wayne at the Grand Wayne Convention Center. The center is located at 1020 South Calhoun St. in Fort Wayne, In. As in the recent past, Chapter, Council, and Commandery will meet at the same site, and each will have their own agenda. Save this date. The agenda is on the website. This conference is open to every York Rite Mason and provides an opportunity to learn more as well as experience the fellowship available in any multi-state meeting. Most of us gather on Friday at the site with Chapter and Council conferences all day Saturday, and a joint meal on Saturday evening. Every elected Grand Officer is expected to attend and every companion who has any desire now, or in the future, to be a Grand Officer, will benefit from the material presented here. In addition, the Emerging Leadership program will be on Saturday, and it is open to all and at no charge. Plan to join us for a very pleasant weekend.

ANNUAL EASTER PILGRIMAGE

The chartered bus will leave DeMolay's asylum at 7 A. M. for the East Coast Easter Sunrise Service on Friday, March 30. It will stop at Embassy Suites in Lexington and at El Hasa in Ashland if that is a more convenient place to board. There will be parking for cars at all three sites. The bus will arrive at Hilton Crystal City in the early evening.

The cost for the trip including two nights at the Hilton is \$250, double occupancy. (\$375 each for single) Meals are at your own expense.

The whole family is invited. There is much opportunity for fellowship both ways and there is always something new to see in Washington on Saturday, and transportation there is very inexpensive. Elaine and I took three of our grandsons on two trips and they reported it a wonderful experience. They still remind me that they went and what they got to see.

The highlight of the trip, of course, is the beautiful sunrise service Sunday morning and the whole family should enjoy this.

For more information, contact S.K. Bill Ryan at billryan1956@gmail.com or (502) 836-1123.. Send checks to Grand Recorder James King at 400 N. Broadway, Danville, 40422. Make checks payable to Grand Commandery.

POTENTIAL NEW PETITION SUGGESTIONS

In reviewing minutes, old Beauseants and Grand Commander proceedings I found numerous ideas for increasing membership as well as increasing member activity. Some of these may appear dated, but if we don't try we'll never know if they might work today. None of the activities require an overly large expense.

More than 50 years ago DeMolay Commandery had an auxiliary organization named Ladies of DeMolay. The club was made up of wives, widows, adult unmarried daughters, and special friends of the knights. They met monthly for a luncheon and speaker and evidently spent part of their time discussing how they could be of service, primarily to our Commandery. In addition, once each year, they held a joint meeting in the evening with the knights. Many of their meetings were in Kosair's dining room and some were at local hotels. Meals at Kosair, just as today, were very reasonable priced and each member paid her own expenses. Would this work today, inviting Chapter and Council ladies as well?

I also noticed family picnics, dinner for our ladies outside the asylum, trips to other Commanderies as a body, member services at a church, a family outing on the Belle, a family outing at a sports event, and speaker conclaves. If you have questions, please ask your editor,