



August, 2018

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Sir Knights,

August brings an opportunity for Kentucky Templars that we have not had in recent years, and won't have again for a while – the Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment will be held within relatively easy driving distance to us. The business session will take place in Indianapolis August 20-22, with a number of activities occurring during the weekend prior. Templars from throughout the world will be in attendance; so much so that

legislation has been presented to change the name of the organization by removing the phrase 'of the United States of America' from it. Four excellent candidates are running for the bottom of the Grand line. You can find further information about them on the Grand Encampment website. The elected Grand Line is required to be present. If you have an opportunity to attend, please take it.

I have recently had the privilege of being invited to bring greetings on behalf of the Grand Commandery of Kentucky at the annual assemblies of Kentucky Rainbow and Kentucky DeMolay. As a Grand Commandery, we make a small contribution to both of these groups, and we try to have someone at their assemblies. More importantly, a number of you support their local Chapters by being advisors, sponsors, chaperones, cooks, janitors, and what have you. I commend you for the 'Good Work' that you do for the youth of your communities. I am deeply impressed by what I have seen at these meetings. Our attention is often drawn to the seeming downward spiral of society. These groups work hard to provide positive, character building, life changing activities; to teach character and leadership. And from what I see, you not only teach these things, you demonstrate them in your own lives. On behalf of the Grand Commandery of Kentucky, I salute you and the 'Good Work' that you do.

Many of you are aware that last year the Grand Commandery presented a sword to DeMolay to use within their awards program. This year, at the Grand Assembly of the Kentucky Rainbow, I was honored to present a hand-crafted, oak-framed, stained glass replica of the Rainbow emblem on your behalf for their use. The award was commissioned by PGC Larry Carte, who worked with their Supreme Deputy, Ms. Kassie Parrish. Sir Knights, I encourage your support of all the Masonic youth groups. If you are interested in more information on hosting one of these groups in your local lodge, let me know and I will get contact information to you.

I hope you are making plans to attend our Grand Conclave at the Embassy Suites in Lexington on September 17. Hotel costs went up a couple of dollars, but the meals are the same as last year. I encourage you to attend the banquet on Sunday evening and the Divine Service which follows. The hospitality room will be open on Sunday afternoon. The ladies luncheon on Monday will have Kentucky author and former Poet Laureate George Ella Lyon as guest speaker. George Ella is a native of Harlan County, now living in Lexington, and is an engaging speaker. We will open the business session on Monday at 9:00 am. The only legislation that I am aware of is to add the Holy Land Pilgrimage back to the list of Permanent Committees, and to establish an endowment fund to support it. We have two announced candidates for the office of Grand Captain General; come early and talk with them about their vision for the future of Grand Commandery. I am glad to see the level of interest in Templary in Kentucky that we have multiple people interested in running for our Grand line. Division

Commanders will again form the lines.

If you have candidates for the Orders, Jenkins Commandery is planning to confer all three on August 11, with donuts and coffee at 9:00 AM and work starting at 10:00. Contact Bob Balthis for additional information. His contact information can be found in the Directory on our website. A highlight of this year for me has been the number of knightings which have occurred across the state, and the invitations that I have received to confer the Orders or to attend your conferrals. You do me great honor and I thank you.

Sir Knights, ever remember, do Good Work, that He may be glorified, and continue His faithful servants, unto death.

Courteously, Randall Parti Grand Commander

CORRECTION

Last month's article on the schedule for the grand sessions this September was a little premature. The York Rite Council at the quarterly meeting in Lexington decided that this year all three installations will be held on Wednesday, September 19 beginning after the close of Grand Chapter and lunch. This will allow a little more time on Monday and Tuesday for other activities. Please make note of this change and plan to remain at the hotel a little later on Wednesday. It should not take over two hours for all three, thus we should depart before 4 P.M.

DEATH

All of the York Rite members in Kentucky were saddened at the death of Past Grand High Priest C. Victor Ramey on April 15. Vic served as Grand High Priest in 1991 and was well known throughout the Commonwealth. An educator, he worked for Morehead State University and most of his memberships were in that area. He frequently traveled around Kentucky giving Masonic lectures on a variety of topics, as well as Freemasonry.

THE PHILALETES SOCIETY

Since 1928, the Philaletes Society has been an association "for Freemasons who seek Light and those who have Light to impart". The organization meets annually in Washington during Masonic Week in February. Membership is open to all Master Masons. There is no joining fee and annual dues are \$50 in the United States. Life membership is also available. Membership is drawn from all grand jurisdictions in this country, as well as many of the foreign jurisdictions.

Each member is provided with a copy of the quarterly magazine, known as the Journal of Masonic Research and Letters, as it is published, and I have found the articles and information in these issues to be more than worth the annual dues. Each issue contains a variety of articles by internationally known Master Masons.

Each February a luncheon is offered with a speaker of some renown. In addition, the Society meets occasionally in conjunction with some other Masonic event, as in last fall when the luncheon was in February in Omaha, Nebraska with the Conference of Grand Masters, where the topic was also the 300th anniversary of London's first Grand Lodge. Then, occasionally the Society will host a Mid-Summer Assembly and Feast, when some other event is celebrated. The most recent example of this was the assembly on June 23-25, 2017 in Bloomington, Minnesota on the campus of the Grand Lodge to celebrate the formation on June 26, 1717 of the first Grand Lodge of England. On such occasions, a variety of speakers is scheduled to cover topics pertinent to the event being celebrated. I have been very fortunate to have attended three of these, including the 1993 meeting in Louisville.

This Society is considered by many to be the premier research society in our country. The Kentucky Chapter meets annually on Sunday afternoon in the third week of September in conjunction with the Grand York Rite meetings. Attendance is open to every Master Mason and papers of interest to many have been presented in recent years. Masonic discussion is also a large part of this assembly.

The annual meeting of The Kentucky Society will be at 2 P.M. on Sunday, September 16 at the Embassy Suites on Newtown Pike in conjunction with the annual Grand York Rite sessions. This meeting is open to all Master Masons and will last one hour and that hour will be spent listening to and discussing papers.