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Grand Commander's Message

Christian Greetings Sir Knights,

February is here, we've recovered from the Christmas Holiday season, taken a breather, and now it is time to get back to work. The individual bodies have elected and installed their 2019 officers. When installed, they accepted the responsibilities of that office. Look to your elected offers to set the direction and be ready to support their efforts. Every Sir Knight can and should contribute to the success of your local York Rite body. Many of you can also have a positive impact on a state-wide basis.

What makes your York Rite successful? Leadership. It starts at the top but needs to be prevalent throughout the body. Every member needs to volunteer their time, skills, knowledge and enthusiasm to promote the quality of everyone's York Rite experience. Not every function that needs to be done fits everyone's special and unique skills. Find something you can do, step up, take responsibility and, as Larry the Cable Guy says, "Git-R-Done!"

Are you looking for some ideas about where opportunities may be for making your York Rite Body successful? Take a look at the document [How You Can Ensure Your Commandery is Successful](#) that was shared with your Commandery's dais officers in 2018. If you want a copy, just email me and I will share it with you. This document is loaded with ideas for you to consider when developing your goals and objectives. I am sure that you can find something that will interest you.

In this document, we have assembled suggested activities in the following categories:

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| Growth and Membership | Member Retention |
| Engaging New Members | Festival Experience |
| Member Education | Degree Proficiency |
| Our Communities and Charity | Candidate Education |
| Officers' Roles, Rights and Responsibilities | |

Each of these categories lists ideas and goals your body can choose to implement during the year. Some of the items listed are necessary for having a well-functioning Commandery and others will offer your members a positive experience to help ensure your success.

Just a reminder Sunday March 17 – Tuesday March 19 is the next Grand Conclave of the North Carolina York Rite Bodies in Clemmons, NC. It is extremely important that your Dais Officers represent your Body and help us to make decisions that will drive our future direction. As Officers, you are obligated to faithfully discharge the duties of your office and represent those who have elected you to this very important station. If you are unavailable, be sure you vote by proxy.

In His Service,
David C. Ladd
Grand Commander

Deputy Grand Commander's Message

Sir Knights,

On Friday April 19th, the officers and guests of the Grand Commandery will visit Mount Vernon and lay a wreath at the tomb of George Washington. There is limited space and late April will be a very busy tourist time.

On Saturday April 20th at 3:15pm, the Grand Commander of Knights Templar of North Carolina will lead a squad in the laying of a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. This is a long-standing tradition and most solemn honor to participate in this tribute to our fallen heroes. We will gather at Arlington National Cemetery in the early afternoon to make our way to the tomb.

Our trip to our nation's capital will culminate with the Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday at the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria. There will be a parade procession up Shooter's Hill at dawn and the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar will conduct the service. This is a rare and beautiful time to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord at the break of the first rays of the sun. If you plan to attend any of the above events, please contact me for details, meet points and information on rules and protocol while on our visit.

Michael T. Daniels
Deputy Grand Commander
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