



VIRGINIA SUPPLEMENT
SIR KNIGHT JOEL DAVID RATLIFF, SR.
RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER

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**FROM THE APARTMENT OF THE GRAND
COMMANDER**

Greetings Sir Knights,

I hope you had a happy beginning to the New Year! With the new year we look to the coming election and installation of new Commandery Officers for the ensuing Chivalric year. The Grand Commandery is beginning its' preparation for the Grand Annual Conclave. This Annual Conclave will be a very busy one as there are many resolutions to be considered. They will be published and distributed soon to allow all Sir Knights ample opportunity to review and discuss them.

During the month of December 2018, Lady Sandy and I attended several Commandery Christmas Observances. In Richmond, I was honored to be in the presence of Right Worshipful William Hershey, Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, and Sir Knight Byron Goodwin, Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons in Virginia. I was thrilled that each of them took time from their busy schedules to support Templar Masonry. My Fraters, their support strengthens our fraternal bonds and benefits Masonry.

In March I will be representing our Grand Commandery of Virginia at the Grand Conclaves of Delaware, District of Columbia and North Carolina. I also will be continuing my unannounced visits to commanderies in Virginia. Listen for the knock! Please inform me of your triumphs and concerns as both serve to advance Templar Masonry in Virginia.

Please do not forget to consider donating to our various funds. It takes effort from all of us to make them successful in their goals. Contact the

following Sir Knights for additional information.

- S. K. "JD" Davis - Knight Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage (Over \$10,400.00 has been raised this year)
- S. K. Jeff McClelland – Baldwin - Brown Fund
- S. K. Edwin Carpenter - Knight's Templar Eye Foundation
- S. K. Taliaferro Dickerson – Knight Templar Education Fund
- S. K. Jeff Hedges - Bicentennial Celebration (Contact S. K. "JD" Davis to purchase Bicentennial Coins)

Every year at the Grand Conclave an excellent outlay of food, coffee, and soft drinks is available in the Hospitality Suite. The Grand Commandery of Virginia does not fund this. It is your generous donations that make it possible. This year S. K. Robert McBride, Eminent Grand Standard Bearer, and his team will be the hosts. Please consider making a monetary donation. As your Grand Commander I assure you that **NO DONATED FUNDS** will be used for the purchase of alcoholic beverages.

Start planning now to attend the Easter Sunrise to be held at the George Washington Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia on April 21st, 2019. I hope that our attendance will be more than it has been in previous years. If not Alexandria, attend the Easter Sunrise Service at the Luray Carillon on the same day. Let's show that we are truly the Christian Arm of Masonry by our actions.

Continue to pray for our Masonic family and especially those who are sick and infirmed.

“THIS IS THE CUP”

Courteously,

Joel D. Ratliff, Sr., KCT, KYCH, OPC
Grand Commander
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Virginia