

Rite Notes
Membership and Recruiting
Grand York Rite Bodies of Florida
15 November 2011



A Commanders Checklist for Success



Companions and Sir Knights,

I Successful leaders experience goal attainment for a variety of reasons. One reason is that they have challenged and elevated their Officer team thinking and prepared a plan that emphasizes effectiveness more than efficiency. The following ideas, if implemented will help each Commander, High Priest and Ill. Master, ensure that his plan will increase in effectiveness.

Have you considered any of these things?

1. Send a letter on your Commandery stationary to each Officer expressing your support for the membership Crusade, and enlist his support. Tell him you are proud of him. Add a sense of urgency to your request.
2. During your next Officers Meeting secure a commitment from each of your elected and appointed Officers to get at least one petition. This sets a good example for other members. Encourage them to do the same. It also displays commitment to a common purpose among the leadership.
3. Write regular personal endorsements of the Crusade in your monthly newsletter. Request the chapter and council leaders do the same.
4. Consider establishing a unique Award for the Crusade, i.e., Most Knightings in Home Commandery, Highest Membership Gain, Most Restorations, etc. Offer special incentives, like free meals for two. Be creative.
5. Get more Committees involved! Review your Committee list, and get some inactive committees active. This spreads the leadership around and offers a chance for other Officers to show what they are made of.
6. Consider writing a letter to all of your Past Commanders. Share your plans with them, and enlist their support, and participation. They will assist you.
7. Meet regularly with your Chapter and Council leadership. Working together within the “Family of Masonry” increases cooperation exponentially.
8. Call or meet with the Deputy or Actives of the Scottish Rite, and seek their support. They might be willing to support a direct mail campaign for the Crusade, and encourage “Non-York Rite” Scottish Rite Masons to join. Perhaps you could arrange a York Rite conferral at their next Convocation in their auditorium?

9. Call or meet with the leadership of the Shrine Temples in your state. Request consideration for a joint “Cold Sands” event with your York Rite Crusade Festivals. Request the Shrine help to sell the benefits of York Rite just as the York Rite should sell the benefits of Shrine membership.

10. Consider a York Rite Festival to honor the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge. Perhaps his junior Officers would join too if they were Non-York Rite Masons.

11. Assign each of your elected and appointed Officers of the Commandery, to become a “Crusade Speakers Bureau”. Request that they arrange invitations to Blue Lodges to present “York Rite Overview Programs” to promote our Christian Masonry heritage. Suggest three programs per month each.

We recognize membership growth and retention is the life and purpose of all Masonic bodies. If we are to continue the good works of Christian Masonry, it must be up to every individual to accept the challenge Never underestimate the value and power of the ordinary being implanted with extraordinary zeal and diligence.

We cannot wish away our declining membership; we must be individually accountable for growing our business. Don’t wait for someone else to do what you can do now.

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>KNIGHTED</u>
1	19 Mar	Miami (17) Chapter/Council	
	29 Oct	Chapter/Council (13)	
	17 Dec	Orders	
2	8 Feb, 8 Mar, 12 Apr	Ft Myers (11)	
	10 May, 7 June	Chapter/Council	
	13 Sep, 11 & 25 Oct		
3	5 & 12 Mar	Tampa	13
	1 & 8 Oct	Tampa Ivanhoe 7, Spgtime 1 Sunshine 6, Trinity 4 Lakeland 4, Ft Myers 10	32
4	12 Feb, 12 Mar	Bartow, Lakeland- Winter Haven	8
5	12 Mar	Sanford Chapter/Council	
	19 Mar	Leesburg (Eola) Orders	7
	24 Sept	Chapter/Council (Eola)	
	29 Oct	Orders (Eola) Orlando 1, Eustis 2, Sanford 5 Daytona Beach 2	10
6	1 & 2 Apr	Ft Pierce	36
	7 & 8 Oct	Melbourne Ft Pierce 6, Melbourne 4 Brevard 3	13

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>KNIGHTED</u>
7	28-30 Apr	Jacksonville	11
	20-22 Oct	Jacksonville 4	12
		Crusader 4, St Augustine 4	
8	1,5,15,25 & 26 Feb	Gainesville	4
	5,9,19,29 & 30 July	Gainesville	8
9	12 Feb	Mariana Chapter/Council	
	26 Feb	Tallahassee Orders	3
	20-22 Aug	Tallahassee	6
10	2 Apr & 7 May	Pensacola	7
	17 & 24 Sep	Pensacola	13
		Pensacola 6, St Elmo 4	
		Crestview 3	
Total 2010 Knightings			165
Total 2011 Knightings			183

If any of the above dates are incorrect OR if you have dates or numbers that should be changed, please let me know.

Henry A Adams
HENRY A. ADAMS
Eminent Grand Generalissimo
Chairman, Membership Committee

“Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar”

some excerpts, from Guidelines for Membership, published by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States, reprint from Aug 2009, intro. and Grand Commandery of Florida,, Beaderstadt, Jon L. Making Members, And from the Grand Commanders Handbook given to the Grand Line Officers. Membership Development, Grand Encampment, 2003-2006