



Rite Notes
Membership and Recruiting
Grand York Rite Bodies of Florida
15 July 2013



Getting New Members

Companions and Sir Knights

As we trudge through the doldrums of summer, we must keep our goal of building our York Rite Bodies into a strong Masonic Order. We must utilize these summer months for planning our recruiting efforts and visiting our local lodges. Our fall festival period is getting close.

It is possible to get new members. In fact, there will be no growth unless there are new members into your organization.

No matter how successful a group is, if they don't continue to bring in new members, it stands a generation away from death. But if your York Rite Body is knocking on death's door, how do you attract new members.

I once asked a real estate broker what his secret of success was. How did he improve his sales? His answer; "ask for the order, ask for the order, ask for the order". As the Bible says, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find and knock, and the door will be opened to you (Matthew 7:7 NIV). Companions and Sir Knights, if we do not ask, they may not come.

Some things you can do include the following:

1. TALK POSITIVELY ABOUT YOUR YORK RITE BODY, AND YORK RITE IN GENERAL

No one wants to join a dying group. Keep internal problems within your tiled Body. That's where problems belong,

2. ALWAYS CARRY A PETITION FOR MEMBERSHIP WITH YOU.

Be prepared.

3. BE AWARE OF SOJOURNING MEMBERS IN YOUR AREA

If they are already members but belong to a York Rite Body in far away places, encourage them to help out by affiliating with your YRB. They can either transfer, or if permitted by our jurisdiction, have a plural membership. If they are masons but not York Rite members, encourage them to join and participate.

4. SUGGEST MEMBERSHIP TO PEOPLE YOU KNOW

You may not be able to directly ask them to join, but you sure can plant the idea.

5. ENCOURAGE YOUR MEMBERS TO DO THE SAME.

This starts with your officer corps. The more people who are out promoting your York Rite Body in getting new members, the more success you will have. Once you get the first new member, the others will follow.

6. ENCOURAGE NEW MEMBERS TO INVITE THEIR FRIENDS

New members have the highest percentage of non-member friends. Once they are excited about the degrees and ritual work, they will invite their friends to become members.

7. MENTOR NEW MEMBERS

New members take a lot of work to get. Don't let them slip away. Assign a member to be their mentor, teaching the new member about York Rite, and how to get the most out of it. The mentor will undoubtedly become the first friend they make in our York Rite. Choose your mentors well, matching personalities and interests up.

New members. There isn't a problem in your York Rite Body that can't be solved by getting more new members.

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	5 & 6 April 25 & 26 Oct	Miami Miami	14
2	11 May	Ft Myers	8
3	2, 9 Mar 5, 12 Oct	Tampa	14
4	2 3 Feb, 23 Mar		
5	22 Feb, 9 & 23 Mar(Canc) 24 Aug, 7 & 21 Sept	Sanford/Sanford/Eola Sanford/Sanford/Eola	
6	12 & 13 Apr(Canc) 27 & 28 Sep	Melbourne Melbourne	
7	19,20 & 26,27 April 13,14 & 20,21 Sep	Jacksonville Jacksonville	
8	5,9,19 Feb	Gainesville	2
9	Mar Jan (slow class)	Mariana Panama City	
10	2 Mar, 30 Mar 14 Sep, 26 Sep	Pensacola	9
Total 2012 Knightings			152
Total 2013 Knightings			47

If any of the above dates are incorrect OR if you have dates or numbers that should be changed, please let me know. Also, as soon as your area determine the dates for the Spring and Fall festivals, PLEASE let me know so they may be included.

Henry A Adams

HENRY A. ADAMS

Right Eminent Grand Commander

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, also “New Life for Dying Lodges and Chapters, 2004, pg 83-85, and from the Grand Commanders Handbook given to the Grand Line Officers. Membership Development, Grand Encampment, 2003-2006

Hm Ph: 321-726-6971

Cell: 321-795-8316

Fax: 321-951-9680

E-mail: hadams1@aol.com