



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



The Thrill of “Membership Development” is Back!

Companions and Sir Knights

We are ahead in new knighting this year over 2012. Let us continue the good works, and in the next three months, our membership should swell. We must, however, keep our NPD's as low as possible. Bring them back and put them to work.

Many Sir Knights through our jurisdiction are experiencing an “adrenaline rush” associated with the enthusiasm of the recent membership Crusade. What a thrill it is to be part of such a magnanimous order and to participate in such a noble cause.

This is Not your Father's Commandery Anymore. This is because new members are joining of all ages, new programs are being added to include family activities, guest speakers, and community involvement. New members bring new ideas, and this results in a healthy growth for the Order. Become a part of this new energy transformation.

Membership Value is Critically Important. Non-York Rite Masons are busy people, and need to be convinced that committing time and talent to a new Masonic Organization has value. Be sure to tell the total attributes of your Commandery. Be sure to emphasize the new activities and involvement in your Commandery, and promote the positive. Increases in our membership base are critical to sustaining both our future, and our glorious heritage. You can do it!

Migrating To A “Dot.Com” Fraternity. We continue to be impressed with the many Knights Templar that are connected to the Internet. Many Commanderies are now getting connected to the “net”, and building impressive Web Sites to promote their Commandery activities such as festivals, membership programs and activities. The Internet improves communications, and saves postage cost among other things. Being a “dot.com” fraternity might be a differentiating factor in selling this great fraternity to Non-York Rite Masons.

Green Carrots. Many Commanderies have instituted incentives to reward “Top-Line Signers”. Membership development is hard work, and those that contribute more than their fair share should be rewarded. Examples of incentives include: **Dues reimbursement, cash, gift certificates, Knight Templar Eye Foundation Life Memberships, and Templar Uniform credits** are incentive programs that have value, and are worth testing in all jurisdictions. Give it a try for both restorations and new members.

Happier Troops. A Crusade is both an event, and a renewed emphasis on membership development. It is an opportunity for all Sir Knights regardless of rank to become engaged in a program that assures success if each Sir Knight contributes. The excitement of Crusade participation continues to grow. Please get involved. Ask a Masonic friend to join, and do it now.

Promote Your Good Works. Write articles, take pictures, and publish your Crusade program activities. Promote your activities. No one can purchase a product they are unaware of.

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.

DISTRICT	DATE	LOCATION	KNIGHTED
1	5 & 6 April 25 & 26 Oct	Miami Miami	14
2	Oct	Ft Myers	8
3	2, 9 Mar 5, 12 Oct	Tampa	14
4	23 Feb, 23 Mar	Lakeland(4),Plant City(2) Bartow(4)	10
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(Canc) 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, 28 Sep	Pensacola	9
Total 2012 Knightings			152
Total 2013 Knightings			57

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,, Baderstadt, 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

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