



Rite dividends
 Membership and Recruiting
 Grand York Rite Bodies of Florida
 15 January 2014



New Year, New Challenges

Companions and Sir Knights,

A new year and a new membership effort. Let us make 2014 a much better year than the past year. Our short and long term degree programs will be in full swing in another month. Now is the time that a concerted effort needs to be made in our effort to gain new companions and Sir Knights. As I have said in the past, It is not just the dias that needs to work on membership. It is every member in the York Rite Body. This is a collective effort if we hope to survive.

In my travels in Florida and throughout the SE, many of our jurisdictions are losing membership. We find the same thing happening in Florida. We cannot just hope that they will come, we must ask and encourage them to seek out further light by experiencing the York Rite degrees. We must develop our Lodge Representative programs and represent York Rite in all the lodges. That program is beginning to show dividends, but not all YR Bodies are using the program yet.

Again, you cannot, assume that Joe, John or Mike are recruiting. Its everyone's job and it must be a planned, organized effort if our bodies hope to survive. As I travel, I see that some of the YR Bodies who have the hardest problem in opening, are those that do the least in attempting to **recruit and keep** new members.

This is a short newsletter this month, however, I do encourage each of you to began recruiting for you upcoming festivals. Don't wait too long.

As you notice below, I am missing some festival dates. Please forward them as soon as possible so they may appear in next months Rite Notes.

Reminder to all: The Order of the Temple at Lakeland Festival, 29 March, will be conducted by the Grand Line officers. This has not be done for ten years. Come our and bring your candidates. If you do, contact SK Fred Gerdom.

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	Feb	Miami/Ft Lauderdale	
2	Oct 12	Ft Myers	
3	Mar 1 & 8	Tampa	
4	Mar 29 (Orders)	Lakeland	
5	Mar 1, 15, 29	Sanford	
6	Apr 4, 5	Ft Pierce	
	Oct 3, 4	Melbourne	
7	Mar14-15 & 21-22	Jacksonville	
8	Jan 18, 21, 25	Gainesville	
	Feb 1, 4, 8, 18, 22		

9	Jan 23 (Orders)	Tallahassee(6), Panama City(1)	7
10	Mar 29, Apr 5	Pensacola	
Total 2013 Knightings			128
Total 2014 Knightings			

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 87-93, and from the Grand Commanders Handbook given to the Grand Line Officers. Membership Development, Grand Encampment, 2003-2006

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