



Rite Notes
Membership and Recruiting
Grand York Rite Bodies of Florida
15 May 2014



Let us Continue our Growth

Companions and Sir Knights,

As we begin our new Membership year, we have requested that the Grand Secretary of Grand Lodge send a listing of all new master masons raised in the past year. After we comb through that list, we will send a letter to 250 of our Brethren, and I will notify the District Deputies (DD's) and the District Instructors (DI's) for follow-up of the letter. The only way this will work is if each of the DD's and DI's accomplish their job as indicated. They are to go to each of the companions in their own York Rite Body for help in following up with each of the newly raised Brethren. We don't expect the DD's and DI's to do this alone. Remember, this is the beginning of a new program, with the center point being the Lodge Representative Program. The DD's and DI's are an integral part of this new program because they are going to follow up the letters that are sent out to the new Brethren and the companions are going to assist in guiding the newly raised. We, the companions, are all part of the problem. The problem is membership and bringing in new Companions and Sir Knights. Our new York Rite leadership has set a goal of 250 new members for this year. You can make all the difference by participating. Go to your lodges, wearing your red or purple coats or your uniform. I presented the York Rite presentation at my lodge, a month ago, and expect 3-4 petitions from that night. Present the circumambulation or the Fervency and Zeal program at your local lodge with permission from the lodges worshipful master and you too can increase your membership. All of these masonic education programs have been very beneficial to our membership. Whatever you do, be visible and be aggressive. Be ready to answer questions and always have a petition with you. By going to your own lodges and by working this new program, we can reach this new goal of 250 for the year. It's up to you! This is a unified process between the Grand Chapter, Grand Council, and Grand Commandery, working together.

This edition is a little late because I wanted to include the numbers for the District 1 festival. This will be the last of our scheduled festivals for the first half of the year (there will be some additional festivals that will go on in conjunction with the district meetings), but now is the time to start aggressively seeking out new members from our Blue Lodges.

I am still missing a number of fall dates. Please send them to me, so they may be included in the next edition.

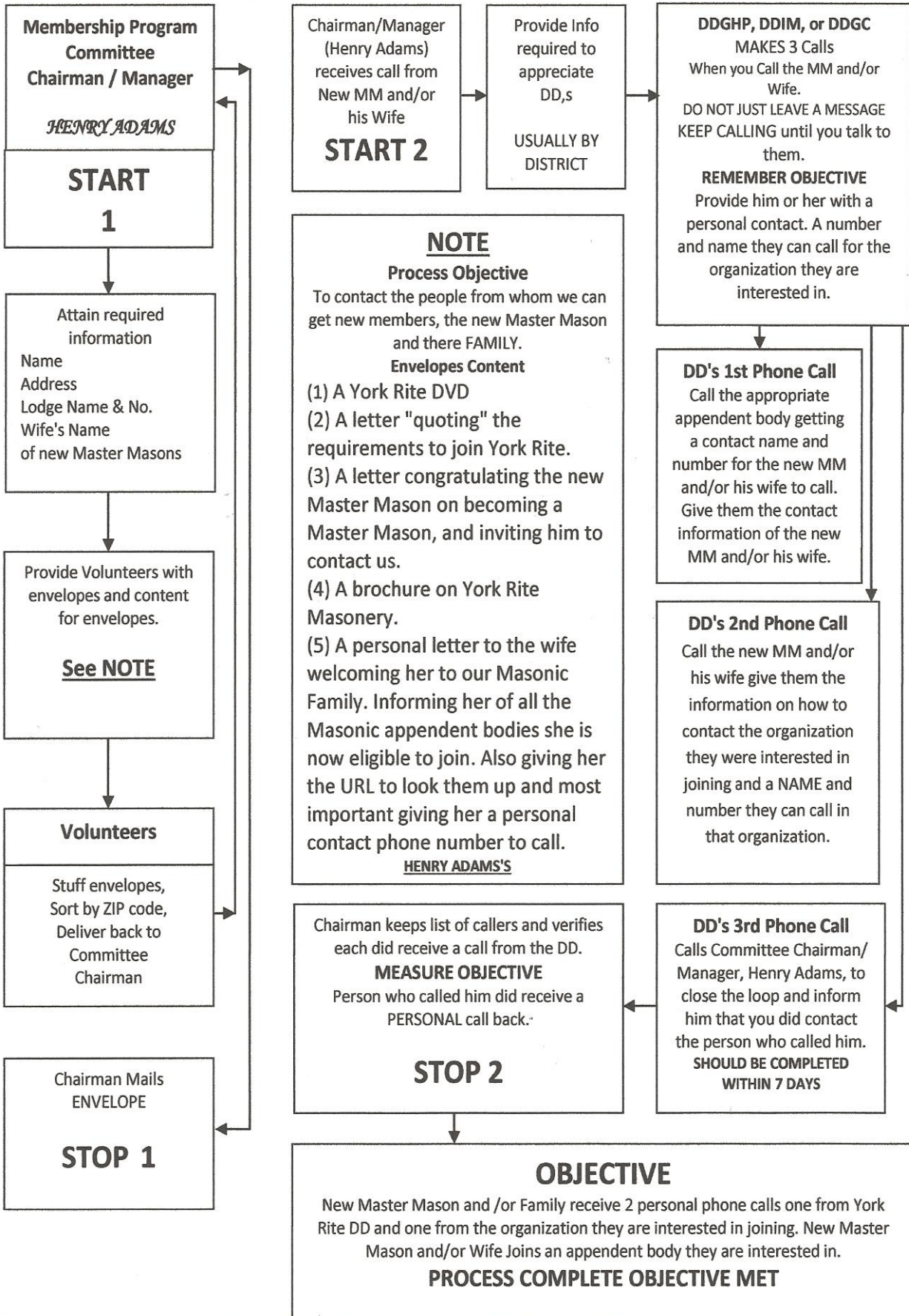
Finally, a reminder to each Secretary/Recorder, you must submit your changes in your MONTHLY REPORT to the Grand Secretary/Recorder, and Recorders must report all changes to YRIS.

As of this issue, we have knighted 93 new knights (compared to 39 this time last year, but we also have 14 York Rite Bodies that brought in zero (0) members in this first half of the year. Five(5) of these York Rite Bodies (YRB) brought in no new members last year as well. If there is no interest in helping your Body grow, how do you expect to survive.

Grand York Rite Bodies of Florida Membership Program and Process

The Membership Program Manager is Henry Adams.
For Process variances please contact Henry Adams.

Revision 4.01.14



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, Apr, 17 May | Miami (5), Ft Lauderdale (16), WPB (11) | 31 |
| 2 | Oct 12 | Ft Myers | |
| 3 | Mar 1 & 8 | Tampa (5), St Petersburg (1), Clearwater (1), Trinity (5) | 12 |
| 4 | Mar 29 (Orders) | Lakeland (3), Lake City (1) | 4 |
| 5 | Mar 1, 15, 29 | Sanford (1), Olivet (7) | 8 |
| 6 | Apr 4, 5 Oct 3, 4 | Ft Pierce (8), Melbourne (2) Melbourne | 10 |
| 7 | Mar 8 & 28, Apr 28 | Jacksonville (8), Bradford (3), Pilgrim (1) Crusader (1) | 13 |
| 8 | Jan 18, 21, 25 Feb 1, 4, 8, 18, 22 | Gainesville | |
| 9 | Jan 23 (Orders) | Tallahassee (6), Panama City (1) | 7 |
| 10 | Mar 29, Apr 12 Sept 5 | Pensacola (7), Ft Walton (1) | 8 |
| Total 2013 Knightings | | | 128 |
| Total 2014 Knightings | | | 93 |

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 determines the dates for the Fall festivals, PLEASE let me know so they may be included.

Henry A Adams

**HENRY A. ADAMS, PGC
Chairman, Membership, Grand Chapter
Chairman, Membership, Grand Commandery**

“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