



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



Let us Continue our Growth

Companions and Sir Knights,

Our membership is beginning to grow. Before the Grand Session, we had knighted 64 new members and with the outstanding effort of District 1, we have increased that number to 94. Knightings are not the only area to stress, and if we do not bring in new Companions into the Chapters and Councils then they do not end up in the Commandery. There are several companions they do not receive the Orders, therefore it is incumbent on everyone to spread the word, to seek out our Blue Lodge members that would come into and participate in our York Rite Program. Remember, everyone is a recruiter, not just the membership chairman or the District Deputy and District Instructor. As we approach the summer months, many Blue Lodges still meet. Assist in the degrees if asked and attend their meetings.

As we have ended our standard spring membership period and are going into the extra festivals, I would like to report how we stand by York Rite Body. The following list will show where you stand as a Chapter, Council and Commandery from 1 Jan to 15 June.

West Palm Beach	10	Cocoa	0
Ft Lauderdale	15	Melbourne	2
Miami	7	Ft Pierce	8
FL Keys	0	Jacksonville	8
Manatee	0	Fernandina	1
Sarasota (Trinity)	5	St Augustine	0
Everglades	0	Palatka	0
Ft Myers	0	Lake City	1
Tampa	5	Lawtey	3
St Petersburg	1	Gainesville	1
Clearwater	1	Ocala	0
Lakeland	3	Tallahassee	6
Plant City	0	Mariana	0
Highlands	0	Panama City	1
Daytona	0	Ft Walton Beach	1
Lake Sumpter	0	Crestview	0
Sanford	1	Pensacola	7
Orlando	7		

As we see, many York Rite Bodies are doing very well in their efforts and some are not doing well at all. The goal of the Grand Commander is an increase of 250, of the Grand High Priest is 10% of our membership or 350. These numbers can be reach if you attend you Blue Lodge meetings and if you seek our worthy brothers that would make good York Rite Members.

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. First line signers should be included on all new companions on the monthly report.

As of this issue, we have knighted 94 new knights (compared to 39 this time last year, but we also have 13 York Rite Bodies that brought in zero (0) members in this first half of the year. Nine(9) 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.

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 Nov 21-22	May Miami (7), Ft Lauderdale (15), WPB (10) Ft Lauderdale	32
2	Oct 12 Nov 7-8	Ft Myers	
3	Mar 1 & 8 June 20-21	Tampa (5), St Petersburg (1), Clearwater (1), Trinity (5) Tampa	12
4	Mar 29 (Orders) Aug 15-16	Lakeland (3), Lake City (1) Plant City	4
5	Mar 1, 15, 29 Sep 12-13	Sanford (1), Olivet (7) Eola	8
6	Apr 4- 5 Oct 3- 4	Ft Pierce (8), Melbourne (2) Ft Pierce	10
7	Mar 8, 28, Apr 2 Oct 10- 11	Jacksonville (8), Bradford (3), Crusader (1) Jacksonville	12
8	Jan 18, 21, 25 Feb 1, 4, 8, 18, 22 Jul 25- 26	Pilgrim (1) (in Jax) Gainesville	1
9	Jan 23 (Orders) Jun 27- 28	Tallahassee (6), Panama City (1) Tallahassee	7
10	Mar 29, Apr 12 Sept 5- 6	Pensacola (7), Ft Walton (1) Pensacola	8
Total 2013 Knightings			128
Total 2014 Knightings			94

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, REPGC
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., Baderstadt, 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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