



RITE NOTES

Membership and Recruiting
Grand York Rite Bodies of Florida



15 January 2015

Companions and Sir Knights,

As we begin a new membership year, we have a big challenge. To do better than we did in 2014. Last membership year, we achieved 204 Knightings. In addition to this we had 3 additional members who completed the Chapter and Council degrees. Our festivals will begin about the end of February, through March and part of April. Now is the time to began to seek qualified Master Masons who would make good York Rite Masons. It's up to each of us to attend Blue lodge meetings and when convenient, to speak to these new masons.

I need the dates of your district festivals for the spring period so they may be included below. With new leadership coming in May, the fall dates may change, but tentative date for the Fall would also be very helpful. Please send the dates as soon as possible.

West Palm Beach		Cocoa	
Fort Lauderdale		Melbourne	
Miami		Fort Pierce	
Florida Keys		Jacksonville	
Sarasota/Venice/Trinity		Fernandina	
Manatee/Bradenton/Trinity		St Augustine	
Everglades		Palatka	
		Lake City	
Tampa (Ivanhoe)		Lawtey	
St Petersburg (Sunshine)		Gainesville	
Clearwater (Springtime)		Ocala	
Lakeland		Tallahassee	
Plant City		Marianna	
Sebring (Highlands)		Panama City	
Daytona (Halifax)		Fort Walton Beach	
Lake Sumter		Crestview	
Sanford		Pensacola	
Orlando			

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, in line of OCCUPATION(Commandery).

As of this issue, we have knighted 0 new knights (compared to 204 last year, but we also have 3 York Rite Bodies that brought in zero (0) members in this year. If there is no interest in helping your Body grow, how do you expect to survive. LET US NOW BEGIN OUR PLANNING FOR OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP YEAR BEGINNING 1 JAN, 2015

Please send me a roster or Data Sheet on each new Sir Knight, knighted at your festival. This includes all Sir Knights, not just those belonging to your body.

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.

DIST	DATE	LOCATION	KNIGHTED
1			
2			
3			
4			
5	13-14 Mar	Orlando (Eola)	
6	3-4 Apr		
	2-3 Oct	Melbourne	
7			
8			
9	12-13 Feb	Tallahassee	
10			

	6-7 Mar	STATE WIDE CLASS, BOX RANCH	

TOTAL 2014 KNIGHTINGS	204
TOTAL 2015 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 determines the dates for the Fall festivals, PLEASE let me know so they may be included.

Henry A Adams

**HENRY A. ADAMS, PGC
Chairman, Grand York Rite Membership Program**

“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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