



RITE NOTES
Membership and Recruiting
Grand York Rite Bodies of Florida
15 July 2016

Previous Membership Drives: Checklist for Success

Companions and Sir Knights,

Most York Rite Bodies will have festivals, short or long classes beginning in the September-November time frame. It is never too early to begin our planning. So far, we have had a very successful year, and it would be great if we could surpass last year numbers in knightings and keep the momentum going. We need to look back to previous years to determine our strengths and weaknesses in our recruiting efforts. There is always room for improvement.

- ↔ Start early - strong consensus
- ↔ Need greater engagement by Commanderies and Grand Commandery Officers.
 - ↔ Promotion
 - ↔ Recruiting
 - ↔ Information
- ↔ Keep program going - maintain the momentum
- ↔ Get support from Grand Chapter and Grand Council early
- ↔ Maintain continuity of program to maintain momentum
- ↔ Utilize Grand Encampment and Grand Commandery website more
- ↔ Personal one-on-one, contact is the only effective recruiting technique
- ↔ Provide clear definition of process on a broad scope - not well communicated
- ↔ Key man concept good - a >critical success factor=
 - ↔ Communications varied from good to bad
 - ↔ Execution of the process varied from good to bad
 - ↔ Changing of Grand Line officers could be detrimental to communication
- ↔ Need more effective presentation tools, e.g. eye-catching slide show
- ↔ York Rite, Scottish Rite and Shrine unity are essential. A win-win for everyone!
- ↔ Grass roots management is essential to:
 - ↔ Forecasting
 - ↔ Recruiting

↔ Execution of process

↔ Video-tape - AEvery Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar@

↔ Leverage sub-division leadership within the jurisdictions

↔ Need broader coverage of information and communications

↔ Don't compete with other Masonic bodies; think win-win

If the Most Worshipful Grand Master is not a York Rite Mason, make him one and name the class after him; if he is already a York Rite Mason, use him as a sponsor.

**There is no substitute for an all-out campaign to strengthen and build our membership.
New Membership by District 2016:**

DIST	LOCATION	#	DIST	LOCATION	#
1	West Palm Beach	4	6	Cocoa	5
	Fort Lauderdale	4		Melbourne	1
	Miami	4		Fort Pierce	1
	Florida Keys		7	Jacksonville	4
2	Manatee/Bradenton/Trinity	1		Duval	
	Sarasota/Venice/Trinity	1		Fernandina	
	Everglades			St. Augustine	
	Fort Myers		Palatka		
3	Tampa (Ivanhoe)	2	8	Lake City	3
	St. Petersburg (Sunshine)	1		Lawtey	
	Clearwater (Springtime)			Gainesville	1
4	Lakeland	2		Inverness (Ocala)	
	Plant City	3	9	Tallahassee	7
	Sebring (Highlands)	2		Marianna	4
5	Daytona (Halifax)			Panama City	1
	Lake Sumter		10	Fort Walton Beach	1
	Sanford			Crestview	5
	Orlando	3		Pensacola	3

EXCERPTS FROM THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT CONSTITUTION:

SECTION 137: ELECTION OF OFFICERS

When nominations are permitted and more than one name is in nomination, the election shall be by ballot; if only one name is in nomination, the election may be by acclamation.

SECTION 138: ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A majority of all votes cast is necessary for an election.

DECISIONS FROM THE GRAND MASTER:

When the word “ballot” is used in Templar law, it means a secret ballot; when the language of the statute is by “vote”, a show of hands is the proper procedure. (1937, p.39 & 339 No. 23 Agnew, 1988 digest – 30 & 407)

If the Grand Commandery regulations or laws prohibit nominations from the floor for officers of the Grand Commandery, the Grand Commandery can prevent nominations from being made from the floor, but in the absence of such law prohibiting such nominations, nominations from the floor are permissible, and a member of the Grand Commandery has the right to request the privilege of the floor to make such nominations. (1961, p.51, No. 25 Wieber, 1988 Digest- 130)

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. Remember, if your new members are not in Y.R.I.S., they will not receive the Knight Templar Magazine.

First line signers should be included on all new companions on the monthly report, in the line of OCCUPATION (Commandery).

Please send me a roster or completed Data Sheets of each new member from your festival whether they were knighted or completed Chapter/Council. This includes all members, not just those belonging to your body.

We cannot excuse our declining membership and we must be individually accountable for growing our body. Don't wait for someone else to do what you can do now.

New Membership by York Rite Body 2016

DIST	DATE	LOCATION	KNIGHTED
1	1-2 April	WPB(4), Miami(4), Ft Pierce(1), Ft Lauderdale(4)	13
2			
3	5 & 12 Mar	Tampa(2)	2
4	6 & 27 Feb, 2 Apr	Lakeland(2), Plant City(3), Sebring(2)	7
5	12 & 19 Mar	Eola(3), Melbourne(1), Brevard(5),	9
6	27 Jan, 12 Feb	Brevard (Degrees 1-3)	
	1 & 2 Apr	West Palm Beach	

DIST	DATE	LOCATION	KNIGHTED
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7		Jacksonville(4)	4
8	16&20 Feb, 1&11-12 Mar	Gainesville(1)	1
9	23 Jan, 6 Feb	Tallahassee(7), Lake City(3), Mariana(4), Panama City(1), Crestview(1)	16
10	26 Mar, 9 Apr	Pensacola(3), Crestview(4), Ft Walton(1)	8
	3 Sep, 17 Sep	Pensacola	
TOTAL 2015 KNIGHTINGS			134
TOTAL 2016 KNIGHTINGS			60

Crestview	(1) Chap/Council	Lakeland	(1) Chap/Council
Miami	(6) Chap/Council	Manatee/Bradenton	(1) Chap/Council
Ft Lauderdale	(3) Chap/Council	Pensacola	(1) Chap/Council
Sebring	(1) Chap/Council	Beach	(1) Chap/Council
Eola	(1) Chap only		

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 Festival, PLEASE let me know so they may be included.

Henry A Adams

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

AEvery 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 aNew Life for Dying Lodges and Chapters, 2004, pg75-77, and from the Grand Commanders Handbook given to the Grand Line Officers. Membership Development, Grand Encampment, 2003-2006