



RITE NOTES

Membership and Recruiting
Grand York Rite Bodies of Florida
15 August 2018

Organized Planning Before Launching a Membership Campaign

Companions and Sir Knights,

A membership campaign requires careful and exhaustive organized planning before being launched. A Commandery that rushes pell-mell into a membership campaign without prudent deliberation and a complete, detailed and well-thought-out plan of action is apt to fail.

The first consideration of a membership campaign is to evaluate the situation, and adopt an overall plan - just like an architect would do before starting the erection of a building. The plan must run the gauntlet of hard analysis by Sir Knights with mature experience and skill in each local community. A Commandery should welcome suggested alterations of the proposed plan that would put it to test of practicality.

Such a plan needs to contemplate the selection of the right men for the job. It should also include the indoctrination of those Sir Knights whose loyalty, zeal and stature in the community give convincing evidence of their willingness and capacity to participate, The plan needs to be placed in the hands of men who will give it the necessary time and attention to follow through until it is successfully concluded.

Before it begins there must be intensive preparatory work and complete understanding between everyone having any part in the work. A few hours spent in careful planning at the outset will save untold hours of effort for the entire team. As is modern business, organized planning will spell the difference between success and failure.

Many excellent plans have failed because the process of implementation was not rock-solid. In order to consider a membership campaign successful, it must have the process of implementation well defined, measurable (to see that it is meeting the goal) and a high level of accountability.

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.

There is no substitute for an all-out campaign to strengthen and build our membership.

New Membership by District for 2018:

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

**EXCERPTS FROM THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT CONSTITUTION:
SECTION 210 Correspondence Between Commanderies**

SECTION 210. Correspondence between Commanderies of different Grand Commanderies must be conducted through their respective Grand Commanders, except in cases of petitions for waiver of jurisdiction. (1949, p. 388)

DECISIONS FROM THE GRAND MASTER:

A waiver of jurisdiction, if required should be requested before acting upon a petition. (1919, p 53 & 297, No. 19, Smith)

Under the provisions of Section 147 of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment, the territorial jurisdiction of a Grand Commandery is limited to the boundaries of the country, state, territory or district in which it is located and it cannot legally extend the jurisdiction of any of its Commanderies beyond its borders; hence, it follows that any such Commandery cannot legally receive a original petition of one whose domicile is in another jurisdiction. Moreover, neither can same be legally authorized by Dispensation, since the effect of such Dispensation would set aside Section 147, as well as other provisions of our Constitutions and Statutes.)1946, p. 71 & 242, No. 8, Orr, 1988 digest - 218)

DISTRICT	DATE	LOCATION	KNIGHTED
1			
2			
3	14 & 21 Apr	Tampa Cancelled	
	13 & 20 Oct		
4			
5	10& 17 Mar	Eola, Orlando(7), Lake Sumter(1), Daytona(2), Sanford(1), Ft Myers(1), Brevard(1)	13
	5&6 Oct	Ft Pierce(Accasia Lodge)	
6	13-14 Apr	Ft Pierce(4), Ft Lauderdale(3), Miami(3), Highlands(4), Sebring(4), Ft Myers(1)	19
	5 & 6 Oct	Ft Pierce(Acacia Lodge)	
7	18-21 Apr	Jacksonville(5), St Augustine(2), Middleburg(1), Lake City(3)	11
8	28 July	Gainesville (1), Lake City (1)	2
9	Orders TBA	Tallahassee	
10	31 Mar &14 Apr	Pensacola(2), Panama City(1), Crestview(1), Marianna(1)	5
TOTAL 2018 KNIGHTINGS			49
TOTAL 2017 KNIGHTINGS (1 Jan - 31 Dec 2017)			109

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.

Fraternally,
Henry A Adams

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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, Beaderstadt, Jon L. Making Members, also A New Life for Dying Lodges and Chapters, 2004, pg 31-43, and from the Grand Commanders Handbook given to the Grand Line Officers. Membership Development, Grand Encampment, 2003-2006

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