



## RITE NOTES

Membership and Recruiting  
15 September 2022

# The Importance of Manpower in the Advancement of Templary

Companions and Sir Knights,

Our membership campaign has done well for the membership year 2022. As of now, we have knighted 68 new knights. A reminder that the Membership year for the Grand Commandery is 1 January to 31 December, while the membership for the Chapter and Council runs from Grand Session to Grand Session. This means that the Grand Chapter and grand Council can still count the new companions that will come in during the Spring festivals. Let us continue to work and have a great Spring Recruiting campaign. To bring to light some suggestions on the importance of membership and the importance of having all our Sir Knights and Companions participate in the campaign, let us review some suggestions. Even if we have not completed the festival season, it is not too early to begin organizing for the next. The Grand York Rite believes that manpower is our greatest asset. Membership and Retention are the key indices by which the progress of our Great Order is judged. A growing membership shows a healthy condition. It means that men are being attracted to becoming Companions and Knights Templar, and that our present members are anxious to retain their membership.

York Rite must have the strength that comes through increased manpower. As a blood transfusion injects new life into the body so does Anew blood@ of York Rite recruits furnish new life to the Chapter, Council and Commandery. Their impact quickens the whole structure of the York Rite. Securing candidates who are ready, willing and able to take an active part in the ranks in our Order is vital to our continued viability.

The Grand York Rite fully realizes that membership growth is a Agrass roots@ problem of superlative importance which must succeed at the local level, and with all the assistance that can be given by the Grand York Rite leadership. With this in mind, the Grand York Rite has taken two important steps in this direction:

1. The Grand Commander, Grand High Priest and Grand Illustrious Master has requested each Local Body, to appoint a membership committee. They have urged all concerned to stress the matter of recruiting and retention of our members at every opportunity. There are still a number of York Rite Bodies who have not complied, however, without a committee and a viable program it makes it more difficult to recruit new members.
2. The Grand York Rite has utilized a brochure published by the Grand Chapter, describing York Rite Masonry and Knights Templar. Participating in a strong cooperative effort with other York Rite Bodies to stimulate membership growth is highly recommended.

We all recognize membership growth and retention is the real life and purpose of Masonic Bodies. If we are to continue the good works of Christian Masonry, it must be up to every individual to accept the challenge. Never underestimate the value and power of the ordinary being implemented with extraordinary zeal and diligence.

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 400. These numbers can be reached if you attend you Blue Lodge meetings and if you seek our worthy brothers that would make good York Rite Members.

I hope these suggestions are helpful for you to begin a revitalize your York Rite Bodies, and remember, recruiting is a must.

**Remember, equip, train and send out the troops, and they will come back with results!**

**Note: If any York Rite Bodies plan weekend festivals, Short of Time or Slow Classes, please let me know, with the date, time, location and contact person, for the Spring of 2020 and I will put it in the January newsletter, and on the website. Remember, Membership and Retention is everyone=s business.**

**Remember, equip, train and send out the troops, and they will come back with results!**

**EXCERPTS FROM THE GRAND CHAPTER OF FLORIDA**

**Article VII, Installations**

**Section I, Time and Manner**

The installation of Officers of this Grand Chapter shall take place during the Annual Convocation at which they were elected or appointed. Provided that any such Officer who cannot be present at the regular time for installation may be installed in such Chapter as Grand Chapter or the Grand High Priest may designate. In such case, the Secretary of the Chapter in which the installation shall take place shall forthwith certify the fact to the Grand Secretary and under the seal of the Chapter. No installation shall be necessary in cases of reelection or reappointment to the same office.

**Remember, equipment, train and send out the troops, and they will come back with results!**

**Note: If any York Rite Bodies plan weekend festivals, Short of Time or Slow Classes, please let me know, with the date, time, location and contact person, for the Spring and Fall of 2022 and I will put it in the next newsletter, and on the website. Remember, Membership and Retention is everyone=s business.**

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

**Membership by District for 2022:**

DISTRICT	LOCATION	#	DISTRICT	LOCATION	#
1	Palm Beach	2	6	Cocoa	1
	Ft Lauderdale			Melbourne	2
	Miami	4		Fort Pierce	13
2	Manatee/Bradenton/Trinity		7	Jacksonville	1
	Sarasota/Venice/Trinity			Fernandina	
				St Augustine	2
	Fort Myers	2		Palatka	5
3	Tampa (Ivanhoe)	3	8	Lake City	
	St. Petersburg (Sunshine)	2		Middleburg	
	Clearwater (Springtime)			Gainesville	2
4	Lakeland	1	9	Tallahassee	4
	Plant City			Marianna	
	Sebring (Highlands)	2		Panama City	7

5	Daytona (Halifax)	1	10	Fort Walton Beach	
	Lake Sumter	2		Crestview	
	Sanford	1		Pensacola	5
	Orlando	6			

**REMINDER: MASONIC MEMBERSHIP SOLUTIONS (MMS) RULES STATE THAT NEW COMPANIONS AND SIR KNIGHTS NEED TO BE PLACED IN MMS WITHIN 15 DAYS. If this is not done, the magazine will not be sent automatically. The Secretary will have to contact Grand Encampment.**

**MMS IS NOW ON GOOGLE CHROME**

**New Membership by York Rite Body 2022:**

DIST	DATE	LOCATION	KNIGHTED
1			
2			
3	5 & 12 Mar	Tampa: Ft Myers (1), Sunshine (2), Tampa (3), Highlands (2), Lakeland (1), Lake Sumter (2), Orlando (5)	16
	1 & 8 Oct	Tampa: Cancelled	
4			
5	17-24 Sep	Orlando	
6	1-2 April	Ft Pierce: Ft Pierce (13), WPB (2), Melbourne (2), Cocoa (1), Miami (2), Orlando (1)	21
	30 Sep-1 Oct		
7	18/19 & 26 Mar	Palatka: Palatka (5), Sanford (1), Daytona (1), Miami (2), St Augustine (2), Jacksonville (1), Gainesville (2)	14
	21-22 Oct	Jacksonville	
8			
9		Crestview: Pensacola (5), Panama City (7), Tallahassee (4), Ft Myers (1)	17
10	26-27 Aug	Pensacola/Crestview	

<b>TOTAL 2022 KNIGHTINGS</b>	68
<b>TOTAL 2021 KNIGHTINGS</b>	170

Also, as soon as your area determines the dates for the Spring Festival, **PLEASE** let me know so they may be included.

Fraternally,

*Henry A. Adams*

HENRY A. ADAMS, KYGCH

"Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"

Some excerpts, from the Grand Commanders Handbook, 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" pp 73-75, and from the Grand Commanders Handbook given to the Grand Line Officers. Membership Development, Grand Encampment, 2003-2006

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