



VIRGINIA SUPPLEMENT

*Embrace the Challenge
Stand Up—Stand Out—Be Visible
Be Proud to Be A Knight Templar*



Editor: S.K. J. Jeffrey McClelland, KCT, 652 Punchbowl Lane, Jamaica, VA 23079
804.240.7367, Jeff.of.Jamaica@outlook.com; <http://www.knightstemplar.org/gckt/va/>

FRATERAL GREETINGS!

Change of the Guard

I pen this missive on my last days as your Grand Commander with a heavy heart as it is in essence—farewell. Thank you for each of you for the friendships Lady Carol and I have developed during this journey. We take with us a wealth of enjoyable experiences and lasting fond memories.

It is with a humble heart and grateful attitude I express my sincere appreciation for the Honor you bestowed upon as Grand Commander and for the splendid support you have given me in the execution of the duties of that office. The experience and pleasure derived from having served as your Grand Commander has no words of description, only one having served in that office can know the satisfaction which it brings.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank all the Brother Knights who have helped reinvigorate Templary into a growing Chivalric fraternity. This year I noticed an increase of attendance among our Commanderies, an interest in the topics presented in our Asylums, and more personal interest in membership efforts. I take a distinct sense of pride, that the standards we now set and the performances we maintain are the envy of many other Jurisdictions.

Now is not the time for complacency or to rest upon any laurels, and I urge you all to spare no effort in your future endeavors. I encourage every Sir Knight attend the Stated Grand Commandery Conclave May 1-2, 2020. There are reports to hear, resolutions to vote on, an Operational Budget to pass, and a slate of officers to be elected and installed.

I have every confidence that you will loyally support my successor as you have me and that he will continue to make a positive difference in Templar Masonry.

This now heralds the end of my watch, but don't think of it as an ending but as an exciting beginning. We have achieved considerable success during our journey together. Forget not, that success is a journey not a destination and you should all now continue travelling on that journey with your new leader.

Remember: "The strongest institutional disciple, according to distinguished American sociologist, Robert Merton, occurs when the sentiments are transferred "from the aims of the organization onto the particular details of behavior required by the rules. Adherence of the rules, originally conceived as a means, becomes transformed into an end-in-itself; there occurs the familiar process of displacement whereby 'an instrumental vale becomes a terminal value." Discipline, readily interpreted as conformance with regulations, whatever the situation, is seen not as a measure defined for specific purposes but becomes an immediate value in the life-organization of the bureaucrat." Individuals so indoctrinated can be relied on as the innumerable little gears of smoothly operating power machinery. Their face-to-face association and cooperation form the spirit of the organization. Their identities are fused into a "we." Each member finds his or her own will and wishes in that feeling of "our" will and wishes." The Craft of Power by R. G. H. Siu

I have no doubt that I will meet many of you in future efforts and I look forward to pledging my allegiance to our new Grand Commander. Now new challenges await me to which I must apply the utmost of my energies. Good Luck and May the Great Captain of our Salvation bless you all.

Courteously,

Benjamin F. Hill

Benjamin F. Hill, KTCH
Grand Commander