



MARK S. JOHNSON, KTCH
RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER

EDITOR: MICHAEL H. SAMPSELL

INTRODUCING OUR NEWEST GRAND COMMANDERY OFFICER

RYAN C. NEALEY - EMINENT GRAND WARDEN



Ryan has been an extremely active Mason since his raising in Palestine Lodge #486 on July 12, 2008. He served as Worshipful Master of his Lodge in 2013 and as Worshipful Master of the 5th District Masonic Convention in 2018-2019. He joined the York Rite Bodies of the Atlanta Masonic Center in 2009, consisting of: Mt. Zion Chapter #16 RAM, Jason Burr Council #13 R&SM, and Atlanta Commandery #9 KT. He served as High Priest in 2012, Illustrious Master in 2011, and EC in 2012. and now serves as the Secretary/Recorder of all three bodies.

He also served as High Priest of the 5th District Chapter Convention in 2016 and as Illustrious Master of the 5th District Council Convention in 2015. He has served as Treasurer and is now the Secretary/Recorder of both. He also served as a Division Grand Liaison Officer for the 4th Division from 2012-2015. He was elected to the station of Most Illustrious Grand Master for the 2019-2020 year.

He is a member of The Valley of Atlanta Scottish Rite since September 2008 and was Invested with the rank of Knight Commander Court of Honour in October 2015. He has been a member of the Stage Crew since 2009 and has been the Stage Director since 2019. Ryan is also the Degree Master for the 18th Degree.

Ryan is also a member of Zarathan Council #329 where he is a Past Sovereign Master, Carl F. Lester Council #65 Knight Masons, Luther G. Palmer York Rite College #123, Cherokee Rose Priory #56 Knight York Cross of Honor, and St. Ambrose Conclave #227 Red Cross of Constantine.

MEMBERSHIP MINUTE: AUGUST, 2020

At the time of this writing, we have just finished the virtual Grand York RiteAs we continue to navigate the uncharted waters of social distancing, I realize that now may not be the best time to talk about membership drives. In fact, when the Editor asked me to submit something, I could not figure out what to say about recruiting, reinstating, and retaining members in a time when our Commanderies are not allowed to meet face to face and conduct our ritualistic work. Then it hit me; our Commanderies CAN meet and conduct business online via Zoom or other videoconferencing services if no ritualistic work is conducted. To me, this presents several new opportunities to recruit, reinstate, and retain members.

I encourage you to meet with your Commanderies at your regular meeting times via one of these videoconferencing platforms. Then, before the meeting is planned, invite some of your members who have been inactive to participate. If you know people who have been suspended for non-payment of dues, schedule a time to talk with them about getting reinstated. If any Brethren have shown an interest in becoming Knights Templar, set up a live question and answer session in which they can get any of their questions answered and enjoy the fellowship of Brother Masons, without the perceived pressure to join the York Rite. Although we are separated, the world is literally at our fingertips and the possibilities are virtually endless (pun intended). We cannot let Templary die during these trying times. The world needs us now more than ever.

Tyler W. Pledger, Eminent Grand Senior Warden
Chairman, Grand Commandery Membership Committee

UPCOMING COMMANDERY INSPECTION SCHEDULE

COMMANDERY	LOCATION	DATE*	DAY	TIME	INSPECTING OFFICER
COUER DE LION	College Park	8/29/2020	SAT	10:30	Lloyd Leinbaugh
Dekalb	Decatur	8/29/2020	Sat	14:30	Daniel Ricketts
St. Bernard	Covington	8/29/2020	Sat	18:00	Brandon Yarbrough
St. Paul	Albany	9/12/2020	Sat	10:30	Paul Wells
Coastal Plain	Tifton	9/12/2020	Sat	14:30	Grand Warden
Malta	Valdosta	9/12/2020	Sat	18:00	James Reese
Amicalola	Jasper	9/19/2020	Sat	10:30	Johnie Garmon
Blue Ridge Mountain	McCaysville	9/19/2020	Sat	17:00	Terry Hensley

***ALL DATES ARE DEPENDENT ON COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS**