



## 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/>

Knightly Greetings,

King Solomon authored the following verses from Ecclesiastes and Earnest Hemmingway wove them into a novel for all the ages, "The Sun Also Rises".

Ecclesiastes 1:4-5:

"One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh: but the earth abideth forever. The sun also ariseth, and the sun goeth down, and hasteth to his place where he arose."

So it is with our Grand Commandery. In May of every year we return to the place we began, the Stated Conclave. As it is with the sun, it is never the same. What has transpired during the previous year has changed where we stand. This is what greets the incoming officers and Sir Knights. We begin anew with more knowledge and experience that enables us to elevate our Order to the next level. This involves change and we have the tools that will enable us to make changes that are positive in advancing our Order. Those tools are communication, knowledge, ideas, and participation.

Communication keeps everything transparent and healthy. Remember, rumors are created to explain the unexplained and they are extinguished through communication. Every Sir Knight needs to be informed about the workings of their Order. This is done through email, telephone, the postal service, and the spoken word. Use them and follow up to ensure that the communication was received.

Knowledge is the one thing that you can give and give and give and still have the same amount you started with. Knowledge held without sharing is virtually useless. Knowledge shared creates an environment for growth and creation. It encourages the sharing and development of ideas. Use your Templar knowledge to be a mentor.

Everything that has been accomplished or invented started with an idea. Not all of them will solve the problem that they address, but every idea has some perceived merit. Do not reject an idea until it has been subjected to due diligence. There are few truly new ideas but there is an almost infinite amount of old ideas that may be reworked to fit a present need. Ideas have no boundaries. Use them.

Participation may be accomplished in many ways. Some examples are; become a member of a committee or just attend a committee meeting as an observer, prepare or assist in preparing a conclave meal, join a drill team, set up the asylum for a conclave, learn a part in one of the Orders, assist in clean up after a meal, and attend conclaves. There is nothing to big or too small, every effort furthers Templary.

Work for the good of the Grand Commandery, your constituent commandery and our Order in general. Individual recognition from other masonic bodies represents a willingness to work for the craft. You as a Sir Knight must also work to support our Order. There is a lot to be said for work performed without hope of fee or reward.

Matthew 6: 1-2

Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men.

When "the sun goeth down" let there be an improved foundation left so when "another generation cometh" they may improve on it for the future. May our Order "abideth forever".

In All Knightly Courtesy,

J. Jeffrey McClelland, KCT  
V. Eminent Deputy Grand Commander