



MARK S. JOHNSON, KTCH
RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER

EDITOR: MICHAEL H. SAMPSELL

MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW GRAND COMMANDER

Greetings Sir Knights!

When you think things can't get much worse they can! The Grand Encampment is keeping us shut down to December 31st so all the inspections prior to that date will be rescheduled. They have also indicated that they would still like us to have the Christmas Observances. They have a meeting scheduled for October 3rd and hopefully they'll decide how that's going to be accomplished. The Waycross York Rite Chapter and Council is having Christmas Observance maybe the rest of us need to follow suit. I've had correspondence with some of the Commanders concerned with their inspections and not being able to prepare. Decisions will be made on how to proceed being our Code requires the inspections to be completed by March 1st.

We are officially out of the Gun Raffle business the individual we were working with is going to keep the remaining guns and return the funds that remained.

I also attended the virtual session of the General Grand Council on September 26th and I would like to congratulate Monty Glover who was elected Most Puissant General Grand Master of the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons International he is now a resident of Georgia. Congratulations to C. Danny Wofford for receiving the General Grand Council Columbian Award. This Award is named for what is reputed to be the first organized Council of Royal Masters in the United States - Columbia Council No. 1 of New York, which was organized September 2, 1810 - This is an award of merit for service given at the Regional level. Each Triennial, one is awarded to an outstanding Cryptic Mason for each of the Regions of the General Grand Council

Mark S. Johnson
Right Eminent Grand Commander

BRIEF HISTORY OF GEORGIA TEMPLARY
BY RIGHT EMINENT MARK S. JOHNSON
ALEXIUS COMMANDERY #22

I've found reference to another Grand Commandery of Georgia book "Origin and History of the Grand Commandery Knight Templar of Georgia", by Rockwell dated 1908 which I'd like to find. Prior to the formation of the Grand Commandery there were 4 Encampments in Georgia: Georgia #1 located in Augusta chartered May 5, 1823, St. Omer #2 located in Macon chartered July 29, 1848, St. Aldemar #3 located in Columbus dispensation December 1, 1857 chartered January 24, 1860 and Coeur de Lion #4 located in Atlanta dispensation May 14, 1859 chartered September 19, 1859. At the Triennial session in 1859 a resolution was adopted September 17th to form Grand Commanderies in Georgia, New Hampshire, Tennessee, Alabama, Missouri, Wisconsin and New Jersey. The Warrant issued was for Georgia #1, St. Omer #2 and Coeur de Lion #3. St. St. Aldemar had failed to make a complete report of its proceedings under the dispensation and its charter was delayed. The commanderies met in Macon October 28, 1859 at St. Omer Commandery for the organization of a Grand Commandery and a warrant was issued by the Grand Encampment December 12, 1859. On April 25, 1860 the 4 chartered commanderies then met in Georgia Commandery #1 asylum and officers were elected. Sir William Tracy Gould of Georgia Commandery #1 was elected Right Eminent Grand Commander. A charter was also granted for a Commandery at Americus to be known as DeMolay #5. The Grand Commandery received an invitation to be present at the dedication of the new Masonic Hall in Atlanta on June 18, 1860.

UPCOMING COMMANDERY INSPECTION SCHEDULE

**ALL INSPECTIONS ARE POSTPONED UNTIL AFTER
DECEMBER 31, 2020 DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS**