



The Florida Knight

S.K. Adam M. Bryan

Right Eminent Grand Commander 2021
4140 SW County Road 341 Bell, FL 32619
Email: adamb1124@gmail.com
Phone: (352) 284-4450



State Supplement Editor

Gary R. Roane - 3632 6th Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL 33713 - grroane123@gmail.com

Greetings Sir Knights,

First, I want to thank you for your confidence in me by electing me as Grand Commander for the 2021-2022 Chivalric year. It is indeed a real honor to serve this Grand Commandery in this capacity. Myself, the Grand Line Officers, District Deputy Grand Commanders, and District Instructors all look forward to serving you in these capacities to our best ability. One of the things I will be doing this year is a little different than we have been doing previously. I will not be holding District or Area meetings in the usual format as we have in the past. It is my intention to make personal visitations to every Commandery in this jurisdiction. The main reasoning for this is that I want to see the local Commanderies as they operate. District meetings can sometimes feel a little less personal than we would like. Grand Line Officers and the local Commandery Dias Officers are usually required to attend the District meetings when held, but sometimes seldom do we see many of the regular membership at those meetings. The opening and closing ritual is also not usually performed at those meetings. By changing this to Official Visitations at each Commandery, I hope to be able to meet and get the opportunity to speak to each one of you and to see the work that your Commandery does. Throughout the year many of you will also get to meet and interact with the upcoming Grand Line Officers to get to know them and learn what they have planned for your Grand Commandery as well. This, I feel, is very important for both your Commandery as well as for them in their planning, as YOU are the reason we are in these positions. We are here to serve and lead the Grand Commandery as a whole, and without input from you, how are we able to accomplish that?

As I travel throughout the state in the upcoming months, I will be speaking on several different topics. My District Deputies have a message that they will give when they make their Official Visitation to your Commanderies. The messages that I will be giving will not be the same message that they present because who wants to hear the same thing over and over? I may have long messages or short messages. Some may be to present topics concerning our several charities, some could be "off the cuff". It is my hope that I will be able to give at least a little new information that you can somehow use that you possibly didn't have before. I may walk away from your Commandery meetings with more information than I had walking in because of a topic presented there, which I look forward to.

I am by no means an accomplished writer or lecturer. I am just a regular Sir Knight just like you. Topics for this article are one of the more difficult things for me to accomplish this year. It will be a challenge that I look forward to as it will allow me to grow. I hope to be able to share some knowledge or trivia or maybe a little different light on things that you may already know but from a different perspective. In thinking of things to write about this year and preparing for this article, one of the things that kept coming to mind is service. While speaking to a good friend of mine who is a pastor, he referred me to Matthew. I will not quote the whole section here but will list it so that you may be able to reference it. He told me that a great reference to service is in Matthew 25, verses 35-45. In this scripture, the Lord tells the righteous that they had performed several things for him. The righteous ask him, starting in verse 37, when they had done these things. In verse 40 he says, "Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me". The continuation of the rest of the scripture is the reverse of this.

This struck a chord with me and has been on my mind for quite a while. In serving one another, we are serving the Lord. In serving the flock, we serve the Shepherd. This doesn't only apply to Sir Knights serving other Sir Knights. It applies to all Christians. Or better yet, all people whatsoever. In serving our fellow man, we are serving the Lord. If there is something that we have that will benefit mankind no matter how large or small it may seem, it is our duty not only as Knights Templar, or as Christians, but as human beings to serve and assist any way we can. The betterment of mankind is a goal that all should seek to improve. We as Christians and Sir Knights can get closer to the Lord by serving him and by serving our fellow man. Our Ancient Brethren served the Lord by escorting poor and weary pilgrims to the Holy Land. Let us, in emulation of them, serve the Lord by assisting others when they are in need, be it by financial means, assistance in their daily lives or even just an ear to listen when they need someone to talk to. Sometimes the greatest things we can do for one another, is to just be there. We are all Brothers and Sisters on this Earth, doing our part to serve the Lord, and to increase the Kingdom of Heaven.

Once more, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for electing me to this great honor, and I hope that I may be able to serve you to the best of my ability and improve this great fraternity. God bless you in all you do and I look forward to seeing you very soon.

Humilis Servus tuus in Christo,

Adam M. Bryan, KYCH
Right Eminent Grand Commander