

West Virginia Supplement

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Vincent E. Perry, Right Eminent Grand Commander



From the Office of your Right Eminent Grand Commander,

Sir Knight Vincent E. Perry:

Greetings to all Sir Knights and your families, I trust this letter finds you well.

As this will be my last supplement to you as your Right Eminent Grand Commander, I pause to look back over the last two years and all that has transpired. I have been blessed beyond measure to have served this Great State as your Grand Commander. I am humbled that I have been able to meet so many wonderful Sir Knights and their families. I praise our Great Creator for the land that I live in.

First let me thank PGC Paul O. Davis for his confidence in me when he appointed me to the Grand Line. A special thanks also goes to his lovely wife Shirley. She has been a huge asset to me, especially helping set up the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery in which this will be her third that she has assisted with.

Second, thanks all my Grand Line officers which I think are the best in the nation. Third, I am grateful for PGC Paul Baker, Grand Recorder, and PGC Edward Ball, Grand Treasurer, for all their help. A large thanks goes to them and with the assistance of James Winzenreid, Grand Senior Warden, to settle the 992B Tax Situation.

Fourth, I would like to thank PGC Poston Drake who is the Chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee with committee members PGC Don Hamric and Tyler M. Perry, EGSwB, who kept me straight in dealing with the many statutes and rules of the Grand Commandery.

Fifth, another special thanks goes to my home Commandery, Huntington Commandery #9, and Commander William "Bill" Smith for all their help and support. Sixth, for the assistance of the wife of PGC Dan Witschey, Amy Witschey, who has been the editor of our Knight Templar Supplement. You have done a wonderful job.

Seventh, to all my committee appointments, thank you Sir Knights. Eighth, to the Mid Atlantic Department Commander, Sir Knight William "Bill" Reinhold, who I have had many conversations with. His help has been and is greatly appreciated.

Ninth, for my late wife Kathy, who left me way too soon. However, she is now in a wonderful land called Heaven. Tenth, the passing of so many Sir Knights over the last two years have left so many memories. Notably, Sir Knight Gary B. Tucker, EGSwB and Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masonry of West Virginia. His passing was a difficult blow to me and my heartfelt sympathies remain with his wife Ladonna.

Eleventh, I would like to thank my friend and fellow Sir Knight Jerry Harper who kept me awake on many occasions as he traveled this great state with me. Twelfth, to my Inspector General, Sir Knight William "Chris" Baun, and all the Deputy Inspector Generals, you have my thanks and gratitude. Thirteenth, for all our constituent commanderies through our state, please allow me to thank you for your hospitality over my years in the Grand Line and the courtesies you have extended to me as Grand Commander. Fourteenth, thanks to our Trustees: Sir Knight Hamrick, PGC; Sir Knight Drake, PGC; Sir Knight Wilson, PGC. Also, to our Prelate Rev. Benny E. Gurley who rightly divides the words of Truth, thanks.

Fifteenth, I'm thankful for our wonderful ladies that made our trips so pleasant with their presence. My lady Tammy, who has been a great support to me, always travels with me when not working. I am blessed.

When I was installed on May 18th, 2019, in Wheeling, W.Va., I thought it was going to only be for 2019-2020. Little did I know our nation would be so plagued by the COVID-19 virus. So, one term turned into two. With so many illnesses among our members, it was my daily prayer that all our companions would remain healthy during this trial of our faith. Perhaps now, the worst is over and our commanderies can get back to work.

In closing, I can only wish our state good health. Our new Grand Commander and his line bigger and more success in their work and travels, and the blessings of Heaven and Earth abide with all Sir Knights wheresoever dispersed. God our Father bless them all.

Peace be unto you all,

Vincent E. Perry

Your Right Eminent Grand Commander