



THE GRAND COMMANDERY of VIRGINIA NEWS

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Sir Knight Peter R. Spring, KCT
Right Eminent Grand Commander

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Knighly Greetings!

This month sees a new format and, as you must have already ascertained, a new method of accessing this information. This new method was at the direction of the editors of the Knight Templar magazine.

This also provides an opportunity for me to enclose more photographs and in color!

Honor Guard

On Thursday Aug 5th, the United Shrine Directors Association (SDA) met at the Kazim Shrine Temple in Roanoke Virginia for the first time ever in Virginia. The Kazim Temple honor guard was not able to present the colors so SK Cole David, who is in line to be the Illustrious Potentiate in a few years, SK Phill Reed (a new member), SK Charlie Steele and SK Joe Broce. With only one day's notice, these Sir Knights presented the colors at 8:30 Thursday morning to open this special meeting. Everyone said they looked "Real good!".



60-Year Award

Fredericksburg Commandery No. 1 recently awarded several veteran's emblems. SK George Joseph Sanderson was presented a 60-year award on May 2nd, 2021. SK George was knighted in Melita Commandery No. 13, New Jersey on November 9, 1960. He affiliated with Fredericksburg No. 1 in 2005. During his most active years, George was known far and wide in Pennsylvania and New Jersey for his excellence in performing the part of Commander in the Order of the Temple. According to George, he could play the part of a very stern looking Commander to a candidate.

Fifty-year awards were presented to: Sir Knights Carl Sheldon Weeks, James Ronald Hamilton, and Michael Shagan.

Illustrious Order of the Red Cross

On August 19th, Fredericksburg Commandery #1 conferred the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross. SK Bill Searcy, our Eminent Grand Junior Warden, conferred the Order as the Sovereign Master. At very short notice SK Romi Capuno, our Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, also filled in, as he particularly liked his hat for the evening! SK Chuck Barbee, the District Deputy Grand Commander, was High Priest.



50-Year Award

A combined Chapter and Commandery 50-year Ceremony was held, un-tiled, to honor Right Excellent Companion / Eminent Sir Knight Robert W. Gray, III, better known to all as "Robbie". Most Worshipful William Talbott Ellison, Jr, presided over the ceremony and presented the framed certificates. Most Excellent Russel Ghee Snodgrass presented the Grand Chapter 50-Year lapel pin, and Most Excellent / Right Eminent James Arthur Fields, Jr. presented the Grand Commandery 50-Year lapel pin. Remarks included several stories of the long histories these Companions have shared, not only as Masons, but in some cases during their childhoods growing up in Waynesboro. All enjoyed the chance to honor a brother for his 50 years of service. They did not have time to change into Commandery uniforms, between presentations, so the only pictures we have feature red jackets.



I trust you find this new format interesting. Should you have any Commandery news you would like to see published here, please send all photographs and description directly to me at: prspring@me.com

With all Knightly Courtesy,

Handwritten signature of Peter R. Spring in blue ink.

Peter R. Spring, KCT
Grand Commander