



SOUTH CAROLINA SUPPLEMENT
S.K. Mark McDonald
R. E. Grand Commander
Grand Commandery of South Carolina
Web Site: www.scgyr.org



Sept 2021 SC edition

Sir Knights,

Greetings from the Grand Commandery of SC. The abbreviated year is going well and I expect to continue to improve! By the time this is posted, I will have had the honor of being part of the Knighting Ceremony of fourteen Sir Knights and the year is really just starting.

One of the most interesting events I had the honor of attending on behalf of the Grand Commandery is the 67th Annual Session of the Grand Assembly of South Carolina International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. Thank you Mrs. Hart for the invitation. The meeting was well planned, well managed and an event I will not soon forget. Grand Worthy Advisor Sister Emily Kibler and her officers did an outstanding job!

The theme of the meeting was “Your Story Matters”. As the Sisters entered the darkened theater that night, a short part of their story was presented. Listening to those presentations was a moving experience. More than once, I found a lump in my throat as I listened to their stories. There was sadness in some, laughter in others but all contained the shared characteristic of Hope. When the presentation was complete, I felt that I knew these Sisters. A bond was created.

Sir Knights, I think there is a lesson for us here. When was the last time you shared your story with someone? We always think these stories are reserved for those closest to us. Logic dictates the total stranger has no need of our story. I think what these courageous Sisters did should change your mind. I want to encourage each of you to take that courageous step the next time you meet someone you do not know that well. Share with them a part of YOUR story. It could be a childhood memory, how you met your wife, the funny things you did with your kids, or why you became a Mason. After the tale is told, I think you will find that your story truly matters to more than just you.



Front Row Left to Right: GWA Sister Emily Kibler, SHSI Sister Dedra Hart
Back Row: REGC Mark McDonald, DGHP Walker Moore, and MIGM John Bowker



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So by now we have had our first District Wide Official Visit on August 28. Sir Knight Wallace Hudson (fourth District DDGC) did an outstanding job of organizing the meeting. The Chester York Rite Bodies hosted it and we had 40 Brothers, Companions and Sir Knights present.

MWHP Jim Humphrey and the members of Grand Chapter of SC. opened the meeting. Some of the things discussed included some new Commandery level awards for service and attendance and a new tool to use to raise funds for Todd Fund. There are also some exciting changes coming in our uniform code.

One idea presented by MIGM John Bowker was the establishment of a true social event in Myrtle Beach. The weekend under consideration is the third weekend of the month. The whole idea is to get together and socialize with our companions and sir knights from all over the jurisdiction and even beyond. (Think Maggie Valley for SC!)

Our next District Wide Official Visit will be September 25 in Columbia at Hampton St Masonic Temple 1518 Hampton St Columbia, SC 29201. We will eat at 8:00 AM and meeting will begin shortly after. Come on out and enjoy the fellowship as we continue the work of reinvigorating our craft. The Grand Council Royal and Select Masters of South Carolina will open the meeting. I promise you will not be disappointed!



August 28, 2021 Official Visit, Fourth District of the Grand York Rite Bodies of South Carolina.

In closing, remember our theme of the year, to love one another. Take care of each other and pray often for all those suffering through sickness and grief. I wish you all the best and please remember that Love is not always easy but it is always worth it.

Sir Knight Mark McDonald, REGC