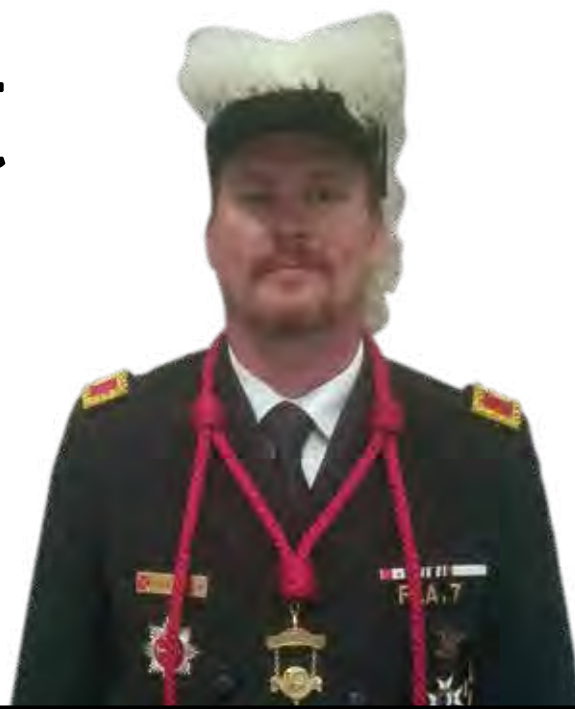


# The Florida Knight

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**State Editor**

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Greetings Sir Knights.

In looking through material over the past month to gain further light and insight into the Fraternity, I have been coming across quite a bit of information in the past that mirrors today. One of the largest things I have gleaned from my studies of the Fraternity even 100 years ago, is that even though, here we are, in 2022, we are facing some of the very same issues and problems that our Brothers and Sir Knights in 1922 were facing.

Membership is an ongoing issue that we have continually faced through the years. There is an ebb and flow to the gain and loss of membership. The Fraternity can be considered, in one sense, as a living entity. It exists as a whole, made up of all of us as individuals, working together to grow and prosper as an organization. When we feed our needs, be it membership, philanthropy, esoterica, etc., the Fraternity will grow and be healthy. When we deprive it of these things the Fraternity suffers. We do not intentionally intend to stop the growth, but our actions can sometimes hinder growth. For example: A body sets a goal to gain 20 new members in a year. They are active in their Lodges and find 20 new prospective members. They talk to them about the York Rite and find they are very interested, proceed with the festival, the new members are active and want to learn more about the work. We start to work them into parts in the festivals as well as some of them working through the Officer lines. These new members are amazing. They are knowledgeable, eager, and happy. At the same time, are we continuing the same work as before in gaining new members? Or are we focusing so intently on progressing these members to fill the openings we have struggled with until now, that we have somewhat forgotten to keep repeating all the steps over again to continue growth? Sometimes we lose sight of the big picture because our needs in the present are more important. This imaginary Commandery is doing what they feel is best. They set their goals, met their goals, and are reaping the benefits. What happens in a year, or a couple of years? If they continue to reset, find new members, find new topics of discussion to maintain interest, they will continue to grow. If not, then in a few years, once those members have progressed to a certain limit, they will be faced with the same struggle as their predecessors.

Another thing that is interesting about Masonic education is that there is an abundance of information available to us, from many different sources and covering multiple topics. Even better is the ability to use that same information on separate occasions, and have renewed interest or even a different viewpoint come to light that inspires the membership. You may be looking through old minutes of you Lodge, Chapter, Council or Commandery, and find something that happened many years ago that you are facing now and they had a solution that will also work for you. In the same sense you may also find that a solution they tried had adverse effects, and that can help you as well by modifying it to prevent the same outcome. You may also find a paper they presented that can inspire now, as it did 20, 30, or maybe 70 years ago.

In current news, as we begin the work of a new year in our Commanderies, the Grand Commandery is beginning the work of preparing for the Annual Conclave in May. Although there is quite a large frame of time until then, there is still very important work to be done to prepare. One of the ways that the Sir Knights can assist in that work is the Souvenir Program. The funds raised from this program are used to create a booklet for the members. A portion of the funds raised also help defray some of the cost of the Convention. Information can be obtained from the Grand Recorder's Office. Standing Committees of the Grand Commandery should start to gather together the information they need for their reports, keeping in mind the deadline of April 1st for submission of those reports. The Grand Commandery as a whole has had a very good year thus far, and our continued efforts will lead to gains in the months, and years to come.

Courteously, yours in Christ,

Adam M. Bryan  
Right Eminent Grand Commander

# Current Events in Florida

**The West Central Districts  
of the York Rite in Florida**  
*invite you to attend*  
**A Festival for the Degrees & Orders  
of the York Rite of Freemasonry**

**March 5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Tampa York Rite Masonic Center**  
4210 W Oklahoma Avenue  
Tampa, FL 33616

**Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>**  
Breakfast and Registration 7:30 am  
Capitular & Cryptic Degrees begin 8:00 am

**Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**  
Breakfast and Registration 7:30 am  
Templar Orders begin 8:00 am

**Need a petition?**  
Ask your Recorder or visit  
<https://flgyr.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/GYR-GenericPetition-Fillable.pdf>

february 2022



**Celebration of Life  
& Masonic Rites for**

**W.: Bruce Reinartsen**

**Saturday**  
**February 19, 2022**  
**2:00 PM**

**Location**  
**Pearl of the West**  
**6319 Louisiana Avenue**  
**New Port Richey, FL 34653**