

NEW HAMPSHIRE KNIGHT TEMPLAR NEWS



S.K. Earl W. Cole, Jr., K.C.T., R.E. Grand Commander
Email: ewc18@msn.com Telephone: (781) 254-5325

S.K. Thomas X. Tsirimokos, K.G.C., R.E. Past Dept. Cdr., Editor
Email: tsirimokos@comcast.net Telephone: (603) 759-6071

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There is no season when such pleasant and sunny spots may be lighted on, and produce so pleasant an effect on the feelings, as now in October.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Sir Knights,

Sixty years ago this month witnessed two formative events in my life. First, my beloved San Francisco *Giants* won the National League Pennant, defeating the despised Los Angeles *Dodgers* in a three-game playoff. They would lose the World Series to the New York *Yankees* in a heart-breaking seventh game, when Bobby Richardson snared Willy McCovey's line drive with two outs in the bottom of the ninth and the potential winning run on second base, in the person of one Willy Mays. Forty-eight years would pass before I saw them finally crowned World Series Champions.



The drama in Candlestick Park would be eclipsed by events unfolding some 2,600 miles away, in Cuba, when on the 16th of the month, the Soviet Union was discovered preparing to deploy Intermediate Range Ballistic Missiles there, which would be able to strike the United States within minutes. At the time, my father, Sir Knight George X. Tsirimokos (Bavaria Commandery No. 3, Munich, Germany), was a Major and radar navigator in the Strategic Air Command, flying the B-52 *Stratofortress* out of Travis Air Force Base, California with the 5th Bomb Wing's 23rd Bomb Squadron. Over the next several weeks, he and his crew flew airborne alert, awaiting the dreaded "Go Code" which happily never came. Cooler heads



S.K. Tsirimokos



Insignia of Strategic Air Command, the 5th Bomb Wing, and the 23rd Bomb Squadron. The Wing and Squadron are currently based in Minot, North Dakota.



B-52G *Stratofortress*

prevailed, because our adversaries understood our strength and our resolve to defend our country and the ideals for which it stands. Remember, the motto of Strategic Air Command was "Peace is our profession." However, the experience was sobering, especially to a lad of my then tender years. In these precarious times, let us hope that our leaders and our adversaries exercise like discretion.

In honor of the thousands of brave men and women who have served in the defense of our nation, our Right Eminent Grand Commander, Sir Knight Earl W. Cole, Jr., requests that all Sir Knights who are able join him in marching in the City of Manchester's Veterans Day Parade, Friday, November 11, next. The parade will assemble at Brookside Congregational Church, 2013 Elm Street, Manchester, at 9:30 a.m. and

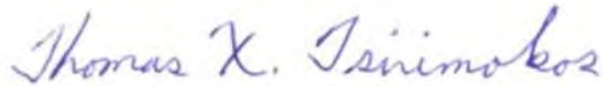
step off promptly at 10:30 a.m. It will proceed down Elm Street to Veterans Park. If you are able to join in the parade, kindly notify S.K. Peter Noddin. Eminent Grand Warder, whose telephone is (207) 745-1103 and email petef86a@yahoo.com. Your Editor will drive his car behind the marchers and will transport Sir Knights back to the assembly point. We had a very good showing last year and our participation in the parade was very well received.

The second Thursday of October is recognized as World Sight Day, a global event meant to draw attention to blindness and vision impairment. Originally initiated by the SightFirstCampaign of Lions Club International Foundation, it has since been integrated into VISION 2020 and is coordinated by the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness in cooperation with the World Health Organization. This brings to mind the critical work of our own Knights Templar Eye Foundation which funds research in the prevention and treatment of such pediatric eye diseases as the retinopathy of prematurity (ROP). Your Editor is personally acquainted with the consequences of ROP, having lost the vision in his right eye. Sir Knights, if you have not yet done so, this would be an appropriate time to join me in making a contribution to our beloved charity. Donations may be made by mail to

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 271118
Flower Mound TX 75027-1118.

You may also donate online at [Knights Templar Eye Foundation: Donate \(ktef.org\)](https://www.ktef.org). Please give as generously as you can.

Courteously,



Thomas X. Tsirimokos, K.G.C., P.G.C., P.D.C.
Assistant Grand Prelate, Grand Commandery of New Hampshire

York Rite Calendar -- <https://nyorkrite.org/calendars>