

THE GRAPH COMMANDERY of VIRGINIA NEWS September 2022

Sir Knight Romulo M. "Romi" Capuno, KCT

Right Eminent Grand Commander

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Fraternal Greetings!

The Virginia Templars continue to strengthen the Grand Commandery and its constituents. There are many exciting programs being introduced and implemented.

The Knights Templar number one priority this year is membership. One of the programs for our membership drive is to hold a picnic for each of our districts of the Knights Templar of Virginia.

Our goal is to promote visibility and to make the public aware of the Knights Templar. All Masonic, non-Masonic family and friends are invited to have fun with the Sir Knights and enjoy their hospitality.

Therefore, I highly encouraged everyone to extend the invitation to their community.

The District Picnics are on Saturdays at 12:00 pm. These are the September October schedules:

September 10 – District No. 9 (Isaac Walton League, 12400 Herndon Road, Spotsylvania, VA)

September 17 – District No. 7 (New River Valley Commandery No. 11, Location TBA)

October 8 – District No. 6 (DeMolay Commandery No. 4, Location TBA)

October 15 - District No. 2 (Virginia Beach Commandery No. 36, Location TBA)

In conjunction to increase our membership (quantity), we are also working on making the Commandery stronger (quality). The Regional Leadership and Education Conference (RLEC) is revived and being implemented. This is open to every Sir Knights who wish to learn more about Knights Templar.

What is there to gain from attending the RELC:

- To be a better-informed Sir Knight.
- To have a clearer focus on the direction that Templar Masonry is taking in Virginia during the year.
- To network with Sir Knights, getting ideas to take back to your Commandery and making contacts, to improve the fraternal interactions with commanderies in your area.
- To enjoy the fellowship that comes from being in the company of Sir Knights and strengthening the shared bond that bind us together as friends, brothers, and Sir Knights.

The RLEC Schedules (Friday from 6:00pm-9:00pm) and Location are the following:

September 9 – Eastern Region (Norfolk Masonic Temple, Norfolk, VA)

September 30 – Northern Region (Manasseh Masonic Lodge, Manassas, VA)

October 7 – Central Region (ACCA Shrine, Richmond, VA)

By attending the RELC, your will be enlightened on the Why of the Templary which is one of the keys for membership retention. One of the motivational speakers, Simon Sinek inspired many people on his presentation about the Why in membership. We should focus on our Why.

Another educational opportunity to enhance your leadership skills, self-improvement, and powerful communication skills, is the Mid-Atlantic Department Conference 2022 scheduled for Saturday, September 24 at Hilton, Crystal City (2399 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202). Please consider attending this conference to support the Grand Commandery of Virginia and Templar Masonry. This is mandatory for the Grand Commandery dais officers. In conjunction with this conference is the York Rite Leadership Program (YRLP) is being offered to members, family, and youth. To complete the program, you must attend the 3 topics for each year. To register, please go to the York Rite website and choose courses.

On a different note. The Bi-Centennial Celebration will be held at the next Grand Conclave in May 2023. We are working tirelessly to make this a memorable occasion, so lots of preparations are on the way. We are creating a Souvenir Program to be included in the time capsule. We request that you be part of the celebration and consider buying an ad or ads for the Souvenir Program. For more information, please e-mail: ktvabc2023@gmail.com or send ad information at: https://forms.gle/vwgt64hF2tNppJS6.

I appreciate the diligence, untiring work and unconditional support of all Grand Line Officers, District Deputies, Grand Aide de Camps and Committee Chairs. You are inspiring. This is teamwork at its best. TEAM – Together Everyone Achieve More!

In His Service and Yours,

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Romulo M. "Romi" Capuno, KCT

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May this pin remind you of the "Shield of Faith" and to put on the "Armor of God" everyday