



Pennsylvania Crusader

Since 1948

GRAND COMMANDERY OF PENNSYLVANIA
pagrandcommandery.org

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Sir Knights,

August is already here, and we are well into summer. I truly hope you have enjoyed the time with your families' attending picnics, vacationing and just time spent together. I trust time has permitted you the opportunity to relax a little and recharge yourselves. As you know, when we are "off labor", most of us are still quite busy with the duties of running the Grand Commandery and constituent Commandery's. Our good work is never really done.

I have kept busy over this summer with six Joint Conclaves, two of which combined Section Receptions, a wreath laying at the Tuskegee Airman's Memorial, Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter in Pittsburgh, and multiple other Masonic events around the state. However, it is all worth the effort and very satisfying.

When many people watch the news and social media platforms and see negativity, I look at our Masonic family and see enlightenment and hope for a better future. A Past Grand Commander would frequently say, "The little simple things can change the world". I would add to that saying "Random Acts of Kindness" may influence someone to improve their life and then pass it on to another person.

So, Lady Dottie and I would like to thank all the Sir Knights, and their ladies, across the state that have worked hard and made all our visits a wonderful and successful experience.

I found the following article (in part related here) "I am a Knight Templar!" and I thought it would be appropriate as we leave summer and enter into the Fall. The author was a Zimbabwean Missionary with Africa Evangelical Fellowship and was martyred early in his career. He said: I won't give, shut up, let up or slow up, until I have stayed up, prayed up, paid up and spoken up for the cause of Jesus Christ and His church. I am a servant of the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. I am a Knight Templar. I will fight on until He comes. I will give until there is no more to give. I will speak out until all know Him and persevere in faith until the Cosmic Crusade against the forces of darkness is finally won. And when Jesus Christ returns for His Own, He will have no difficulty recognizing me. For I will be wearing His Armor of Light.

I will be wielding the Sword of the Spirit and the Shield of Faith. Imagine if we all felt and acted this way!

My prayers continue for you and your loved ones. I look forward to seeing you all very soon. Possibly at one of these upcoming events.

Upcoming Events:

September 1	Holy Land Pilgrimage nominations due
August 18	Jobs Daughters Banquet-Elizabethtown
August 26	One Day Conferral of Orders, Samuel S. Yohe
August 31	PCLO Dinner
September 8-9	NE: Department Conference
September 10	Flight 93 Wreath Laying
September 15 – 17	Gettysburg Memorial Weekend
September 26	Central Section Joint Conclave Division 11
October 15	Southeast Section Reception
October 22	DeMolay Legion of Honor Conferral
October 22	Northeast Section Reception
October TBA	Mass/RI Grand Conclave

Templar Knights in history

Gerard de Ridefort was the tenth Grand Master of the Knights Templar from 1185 - 1189. He was known for his impetuous temper. Although he possessed personal bravery, his rash decisions led to one of the worst defeats of the Christian forces in Outremer in the battle of Hattin. He was captured, held for ransom, and later released. Ridefort died during the siege of Acre in 1189.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16



In His Service,
S.K. Thomas C. Helm
Grand Commander

