



Grand Commander



Brandon Penley

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For Official Information:

D. Allen Surratt
Grand Secretary/Recorder

6328 Surratt Ctry. Rd.,
Denton, NC 27239-9080

Office: (336) 857-2394

Grand Sec. Email:
NCGYR@rtmc.net

Grand Commandery Website:
www.ncgvorkrite.org/gckct/

We Need Your Help!

Please send event news from your local commanderies to us for inclusion in the State News!

- ✧ Submissions must be received by the 20th of the month for inclusion in the upcoming edition. Submissions may be altered to fit.
- ✧ Please send emails with subject line "KT State News" to the editor.

Editor: Larry Aydlett
Larry.aydlett@gmail.com



Grand Commander's Message

Greetings Sir Knights,

I hope you have all had a wonderful month. I hope you all enjoyed the Thanksgiving Holiday. The month of December is a busy month for several reasons. It is a busy month for masons as we prepare for Christmas Observances, year-end reports, and for the election and installation of officers in several of our masonic bodies. It is a busy month for many of our Sir Knights on a professional level as many companies are preparing for the end of the business year. It is a particularly hectic month for many as they plan for Christmas events, shopping, and traveling to spend the holiday season with family and friends. I hope you will all take time to remember the reason for the Christmas holiday. I hope you will all remember that is not just a time for giving and receiving gifts, but it is a time to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Many of our Commanderies are having Christmas Observances over the next several weeks and these events are listed on the schedule in this newsletter. It is my goal to attend as many of these as I am possibly able to attend. If you are hosting a Christmas Observance and do not see it listed on the schedule in this newsletter, then please reach out to me so that we may add it to the schedule and attend if possible. On Sunday, December 10, the Grand Commandery of NC along with Oxford Commandery #39 will be holding a Christmas Observance in the York Rite Chapel at the Masonic Home for Children starting at 6PM. This will also celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford. Please try to attend these events if you can.

I realize that at this time of the year we are all being pulled in many different directions, but as we approach the end of

another calendar year, we are also approaching the end of our masonic year for many of our masonic bodies. This should be viewed as a time of excitement about the future of our fraternity. While some of our brothers are at the end of their terms in various masonic bodies, others are just beginning. To our brothers who are finishing their terms as the presiding officer of the many masonic organizations in our great state, I first want to thank you for your service; secondly, I want to encourage your continued participation. Our new and incoming leaders need your continued support. The future of our great fraternity depends on all of our membership, not just those currently serving in officer's positions.

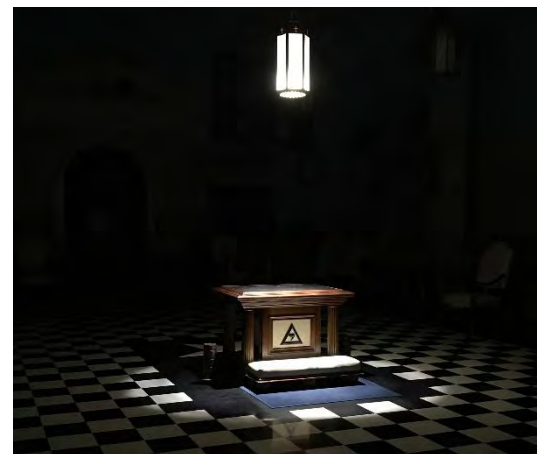
I would like to encourage the recorders of the Commanderies in North Carolina to start reviewing your membership list and the data you currently have listed in MMS. This information needs to be up to date in MMS with deaths, demits, suspensions, expulsions and new memberships before December 31. This responsibility falls on each individual recorder and not the Grand Recorder. Please make sure this information is up to date as soon as possible and do not wait until the last minute to enter this into MMS.

Merry Christmas to you all.

Fraternally in Christ,

Brandon Penley

Grand Commander



**Plantagenet Commandery #1 Marching in
Wilmington Christmas Parade**



Members of Page High School's Chorus serenades the Sir Knights and guests at last year's Christmas Observance in Greensboro, hosted by Ivanhoe #8.

Wilmington – Plantagenet Commandery #1 Eminent Commander Binh Q. Nguyen has cordially extended an invitation to Sir Knights across the state to come attend the Knights Templar Christmas Observance on December 3, 2023 at Orient Lodge #395, located at 1312 Shipyard Boulevard in Wilmington, starting at 3:30 PM. Refreshments will be served.

After the Christmas Observance, all are invited to attend and participate in the Wilmington Christmas parade in downtown Wilmington. Sir Knights are encouraged to ride in the Knights Templar float. Step off time for the parade is 6:00 PM. If you've never been to a nighttime Christmas parade, it is a rare and beautiful sight. Those wishing to attend and participate are requested to please RSVP to the Secretary/Recorder at (910) 262-3149 so they may prepare for the number in attendance.

Important Reminders:

December 2: Asheville York Rite Christmas Observance starting at 2:00 PM.

December 2: York Rite Christmas Observance by Palestine #20 at the Fayetteville Masonic Center, starting at 12:00 PM.

December 3: Plantagenet #1 Christmas Observance at [Orient Lodge #395](#) starting at 3:30 PM, followed by the Wilmington Christmas Parade

stepping off at 6:00 PM in Downtown Wilmington.

December 4: Wilkes #40 Conferring the Order of Malta at Wilkes York Rite in North Wilkesboro, starting at 7:00 PM.

December 4: York Rite Christmas Observance by Salisbury #13 at the Salisbury Temple, starting at 6:00 PM.

December 6: York Rite Christmas Observance by Ivanhoe #8 at the Greensboro Masonic Temple, starting at 7:30 PM.

December 7: York Rite Christmas Observance by Durham #3 at University Lodge #408, Chapel Hill, starting at 7:00 PM.

December 7: York Rite Christmas Observance by Goldsboro #26 at Wayne Lodge, starting at 7:00 PM. This is a closed meeting, KT only.

December 9: Raleigh #4 Christmas Observance starting at 5:00 PM at JJ Crowder Lodge, Raleigh.

December 10: York Rite Christmas Observance by the NC Grand Commandery, hosted by Oxford #39 at the York Rite Chapel at the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, starting at 6:00 PM.

December 11: Mount Lebanon #7 Christmas Observance, at Mt. Lebanon Lodge, Wilson, Starting at 6:00 PM. This is a closed meeting, KT only.

December 13: Nazareth #41 Christmas Celebration, 7:00 PM. Family and friends are invited. Pot Luck refreshments to follow and all Sir Knights are asked to contribute.

December 17: St. Johns #10 Christmas Observance at the New Bern York Rite Temple in New Bern, starting at 2:00 PM.

December 18: Bethlehem #29 Christmas Observance at the Greenville Masonic Center, starting at 6:00 PM.

December 18: Wilkes #40 Christmas Observance at Wilkes York Rite in North Wilkesboro, starting at 7:00 PM.

December 28: Wilkes #40 Conferring the Order of the Temple at Wilkes York Rite in North Wilkesboro, starting at 7:00 PM.