

NEW HAMPSHIRE KNIGHT TEMPLAR NEWS



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November 2023

Don't wait until the fourth Thursday in November, to sit with family and friends to give thanks.
Make every day a day of Thanksgiving!

Charmaine J. Forde

Sir Knights,

It is November, the month in each year when, on the fourth Thursday, we gather with our friends and loved ones to give thanks for the manifold blessings which God has bestowed upon us. We can take pride in the fact that it was a daughter of the Granite State, Newport-born Sarah Josepha Hale, who, in 1863 in the midst of the Civil War, convinced President Abraham Lincoln issue the following proclamation:

I do, therefore, invite my fellow-citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a Day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens. And I recommend to them that, while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty hand to heal the wounds of the nation, and to restore it, as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes, to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility, and union.

A prominent author, poet, and editor, Hale published works by such renowned writers as Edgar Allan Poe, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Ralph Waldo Emerson. She promoted liberal education for women, child welfare, and encouraged the founding of Vassar College. While you may be unfamiliar with much of her work, we all know her most famous poem, *Mary Had a Little Lamb*.

On the 11th of this month, we honor the brave men and women whose ultimate sacrifice enables us to enjoy, in peace and freedom, the blessings for which we are grateful. To that end, our Right Eminent Grand Commander, Sir Knight Kaleb R. Brown, requests that all Sir Knights who are able join him in marching in the City of **Manchester's** Veterans Day Parade, Saturday, November 11, next. The parade will assemble at Brookside Congregational Church, 2013 Elm Street, Manchester, at 9:45 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. Earl W. Cole, Jr., Right Eminent Past Grand Commander, whose telephone is (781) 254-5325 and email ewc18@msn.com. Your Editor will drive his car behind the marchers and will transport Sir Knights back to the assembly point. We had a good showing last year

and our participation in the parade is always well received. The parade being on a Saturday, even more of us should be available.

On October 28, the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island convened its Grand Conclave in Mansfield, Massachusetts. The Granite State was well represented at the event. Our Right Eminent Grand Commander was accompanied by several of his officers, namely Sir Knights Arthur W. Stauff, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, Peter J. Noddin, Eminent Grand Captain General, and Kenneth A. Colpaert, Eminent Grand Senior Warden. Also sojourning from New Hampshire was Sir Knight Earl W. Cole, Jr., Right Eminent Past Grand Commander.



From left to right, Sir Knights Peter J. Noddin, Kenneth A. Colpaert, Kaleb R. Brown, John D. Barnes, Right Eminent Northeastern Department Commander, Roland Woodward, Right Eminent Grand Commander of Vermont, Earl W. Cole, Jr., and Arthur W. Stauff.

In other news of our York Rite, the Most Illustrious Grand Council of Cryptic Masons conferred the Super Excellent Master Degree upon several Select Masters from New Manchester and Maine Saturday, October 7, last, in the Portsmouth Masonic Temple. This optional, Cryptic Degree, deals with the destruction of the Temple of Solomon and the carrying away of the Jewish people to captivity in Babylon as punishment for having turned away from God and his ways.



The cast and recipients of the Super Excellent Master Degree are flanked by the Most Illustrious Grand Master, Companion David Scott Collins (left), and the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Companion Daniel R. Hotchkiss.

On Saturday, October 21, Profile York Rite College No. 100 met in Concord to confer the Order of Knight of York upon four Brethren, among them Most Worshipful Brother Kenneth A. Clay, Past Grand Master and Deputy for New Hampshire, Scottish Rite, N.M.J.



The cast and recipients of the Order of the Knight of York were joined by Brother Daniel R. Hotchkiss, O.P.C. Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Mark your calendars for the Grand Commandery Christmas Observance Saturday, December 3, next, at 2:00 p.m., in Concord. It is a nice respite from the press of Christmas shopping and other preparations and an opportunity to reflect upon the true meaning of the holiday, while enjoying the fellowship of our Fraters, families, and friends.

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://nhyorkrite.org/calendars>