

NEW HAMPSHIRE KNIGHT TEMPLAR NEWS



S.K. Arthur W. Stauff, K.T.C.H., R.E. Grand Commander
Email: artstauff@gmail.com Telephone: (203) 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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*Upon what meat doth this our Caesar feed
That he is grown so great? Age, thou art shamed!*
--William Shakespear, *Julius Caesar*, Act 1, Scene 2

Sir Knights,

Last month was exceptionally cold and snowy, but our Sir Knights were undeterred, traveling “over frozen ground” to perform the important work of our Grand and Constituent Commanderies. Luckily, the tempests abated in time for each of our two inspections. In the last week we could take comfort in seeing our beloved *Red Sox* on the field in sunny Fort Myers. Bolstered by the additions of such as Alex Bregman, Garrett Crochet, and Walker Buehler, we can confidently hope that the season which begins this month will this year extend well into October,

On Saturday, February 1, Mount Horeb Commandery No. 3 and North Star Saint Gerard Commandery No. 4 jointly conferred the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross upon six Companions in Concord.



S.K. Arthur W. Stauff, R.E. Grand Commander, stands with the cast and newest Companions of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross.

Two weeks later, Saturday, February 15, saw the conferral of the Order of Malta by the Sir Knights of Trinity Commandery No. 1 and Saint George Commandery No. 8 in Nashua.



The newest Knights of Malta (front) with the cast for the conferral. The R.E. Grand Commander is third from right in the back row.

The final inspection will be Saturday, March 8, 2025, when the Order of the Temple is conferred in Rochester by De Witt Clinton Commandery No. 2 and Palestine Commandery No. 11. This is a change from the previous plan which had been for the conferral in Portsmouth. For those unfamiliar with Rochester, the Temple is located at 56 Hanson Street. Make lunch reservations with Sir Knight Glen E. Eldredge, Recorder, Palestine Commandery No 11, eldredgeglen@yahoo.com.

Sir Knight Dennis A. Sheridan, K.C.T., Eminent Grand Recorder, has circulated to the Commanderies proposed amendments to Articles II and III of the *Grand Regulations of the Grand Commandery of New Hampshire*. They are proposed by the Chair of our Jurisprudence Committee and intended to ensure consistency with the *Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment*. Please discuss them in your Commanderies, as they will be considered for adoption at the Annual Grand Business Conclave next month.

On Saturday, February 22, last, my brother-in-law, Sir Knight William P. Carter, Eminent Deputy Grand Treasurer of the Grand Commandery, was installed as Worshipful Master of Washington Lodge No. 61 in Manchester. I was proud to be part of the Intalling Suite, as I had a hand in his joining the craft, something he had long resisted. In October 2014 while I was Department Commander, I and my family traveled to Gettysburg to attend the annual Grand Commandery Memorial Service at the Friend to Friend Monument in Gettysburg National Cemetery. Sir Knight Carter and his Lady, Jane, were then living in Pennsylvania, so I invited them to join us there as my guests. At the banquet in the evening, I was asked to speak and introduced my family. When I came to the Carters, I noted that, while my wife and sister-in-law hailed from a Masonic and Eastern Star family, my brother-in-law remained one of the profane. I challenged the Sir Knights of Pennsylvania to rectify that unfortunate state of affairs. Before we left the room, he had four petitions in hand, of which one was from Lafayette Lodge No. 192 in Selens Grove where he and Jane lived. Brother Carter was raised there and joined Scottish Rite in the Valley of Harrisburg. When he and

Jane returned to the Granite State, he started his York Rite journey. I was privileged to dub him Sir Knight in March 2019.



From left to right, S.K. George, Lady Rita Vaccarello, Lady, Virginia, your editor, daughter, Stephanie, and S.K. Nicholas Vaccarello, R.E. Grand Commander of Pennsylvania, at the Friend to Friend monument in Gettysburg, September 2014.

At the installation, I was proud to administer the charge to the new Wardens, of whom my son, Sir Knight George, is Senior Warden. Incidentally, he is the fourth generation in Washington Lodge No. 61, after his late great grandfather, Xenophon, his grandfather and namesake, George, and your editor. I hope to install him as Worshipful Master in two years.

On February 26, Sir Knight Arthur W. Stauff, K.T.C.H., Right Eminent Grand Commander was warmly welcomed to the Stated Conclave of Jefferson Commandery No. 52, Knights Templar, in Louisville, Kentucky. He was greeted by Sir Knight Ricky A. Sears, Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Kentucky. The Conclave was opened in full form and was the Official Inspection of the Commandery. Sir Knight Stauff is the Executive Officer for New Hampshire DeMolay and was in Louisville to attend the Executive Officers Conference. He thoroughly enjoyed the sojourn. Visiting Masonic and Templar bodies in other jurisdictions is fun and interesting and I encourage you to take advantage of such opportunities when they arise.



Left to right S.K. Arthur W. Stauff with S.K. John T. Harrison, Eminent Commander, and S.K. Ricky A. Sears, R.E. Grand Commander of Kentucky, in the Asylum of Jefferson Commandery No. 52, Louisville.

Please note the Grand Commandery Officers Call, Sunday evening, March 2, next, at 8:00 p.m. The regular Drill Practice will be held in Concord, Friday evening, March 21, at 6:30 p.m.

Sir Knights, as we enter the Lenten season, take heart. Spring is but three weeks away.

Courteously,

Thomas X. Tsirimokos

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>