



Grand Commander



Michael M. Hoff

The *NC Knightly News* is a monthly publication of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of North Carolina. All photos used with permission of their owners who retain all copyrights.

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.ncgyorkrite.org/gcktl/

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,

April has come to a close, and May is now upon us. We've had a busy and productive month supporting the Commandery of the Knights Templar and representing the great state of North Carolina with pride.

Here are some highlights from the month of April:

On April 20, six of our Sir Knights attended the Easter Observance in Alexandria, Virginia. I would like to extend my personal thanks to Charles Talley, Ken Wical, Jimmy Moore, Francis Anson, and Edward Gaskins for taking the time and expense to support this important event. While in attendance, Sir Knights Edward Gaskins and Jimmy Moore took part in a public wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers, representing us with great honor and dignity.

Additionally, I was informed of two festivals held during April, one in New Bern and another in Salisbury. Excellent work to all who participated and helped make those events successful!

If your Commandery is conferring any Orders, please keep me informed. Speaking of which, I'm pleased to announce that PGC Michael Daniels and Sir Knight Larry Aydlett are currently planning an Order of the Temple at Castle McCulloch, scheduled for Monday, November 17. Please begin thinking about candidates for this very special event. More information will follow.

Looking ahead to May, here are some events already on the schedule:

- ✘ May 1-2: Grand Session in Macon, Georgia. At least five of us will be in attendance.
- ✘ May 3: Honors Day at Black Mountain Lodge #663.

✘ May 16: First District Meeting in Waynesville.

✘ May 17: Second District Meeting in North Wilkesboro.

Important Holidays in May:

✘ May 11: Mother's Day – Let us honor and celebrate our mothers and widows on this special day.

✘ May 26: Memorial Day – A time to reflect and pay tribute to the brave men and women who gave their lives in service to our nation.

✘ May 29: Ascension Day

A vital Christian holiday commemorating Jesus Christ's ascension into heaven — a powerful reminder of His triumph over death and His promise to return.

Lastly, if you haven't recently visited the calendar on the Grand York Rite website, I encourage you to do so. PGC John Walston has done a tremendous job maintaining and updating it, including events from many Masonic bodies, not just York Rite. Thank you, Sir Knight Walston, for your hard work and continued service to Masonry.

If there's an event you'd like to see added to the calendar, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Fraternally yours,

Michael M. Hoff

Grand Commander

Grand York Rite District Meeting Calendar

Denton – The Grand York Rite Bodies of North Carolina has scheduled this year's District Meetings. Note that some meetings have been scheduled for Saturday mornings to better accommodate travel across the state. Sir Knights are encouraged to attend these meetings wherever possible. As meal information becomes available, RSVPs may be requested.

| DISTRICT | HOST | DATE | TIME |
|------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| District 9 | Waynesville | Friday, May 16, 2025 | 7:30 PM |
| District 8 | N. Wilkesboro | Saturday, May 17, 2025 | 9:00 AM |
| District 4 | Durham | Thursday, June 5, 2025 | 7:30 PM |
| District 5 | Fayetteville | Saturday, July 19, 2025 | 9:00 AM |
| District 7 | Charlotte | Tuesday, August 5, 2025 | 7:30 PM |
| District 6 | Greensboro | Wednesday, August 6, 2025 | 7:30 PM |
| District 2 | New Bern | Saturday, September 6, 2025 | 9:00 AM |
| District 1 | Washington | Tuesday, September 23, 2025 | 7:30 PM |
| District 3 | Goldsboro | Thursday, October 2, 2025 | 7:30 PM |

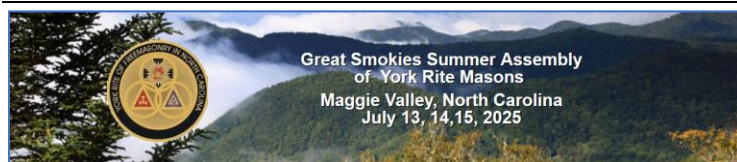
In Memoriam: REPGC Dale Douglas Davis



New Bern – On April 26, 2025, REPGC Dale Douglas Davis passed away after a courageous battle against cancer. Dale was raised to the Sublime Degree at St. John's Lodge No. 3 on May 10, 1995, in St. John's Lodge #3 in New Bern, NC, and served as Master in 2003. In 2013 he was elected as the Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of North Carolina for the 2013-2014 term. Dale joined the New Bern Scottish Rite in November 1995, and was awarded the Knight Commander of the Court of

Honour. He was the Past Director of the Chef Crew of the Scottish Rite. Dale was also the Past Director of the Sudan Chef Crew in 2003.

Graveside Services will be held on Monday, May 5, 2025, at 11:00AM at the [New Bern Memorial](#) under the Pavillion located at 1112 Chelsea Rd., Trent Woods, NC. Rev. Jeremy Slagle will be officiating the service. Military honors and Masonic Rites will follow the service. St. John's Lodge No. 3 uses the annual Lodge of Sorrow so there will not be a lodge meeting beforehand.



88th Annual York Rite Great Smokies Summer Assembly Calendar of Events

Maggie Valley – The Grand York Rite Bodies of North Carolina announced the event schedule for the 88th Annual Summer Assembly in the Great Smoky Mountains.

This year's theme is, ***"Together we can move water and mountains."***

Registration is open now, and the form can be downloaded from the Summer Assembly website at <https://mwsite.org/sites/ncgssa/wp-content/uploads/sites/50/2025/04/Great-Smokies-AssemblyFORM265.pdf>

Please complete this form and return it with your check no later than June 30, 2025. Make checks payable to "SUMMER ASSEMBLY" and mail to:

Allen Surratt - Grand Secretary
6328 Surratt Country. Rd.,
Denton, NC 27239

Registration Fees:

- ❑ Summer Assembly (Men only): \$25
- ❑ Banquet / Show Tickets:
\$65 (Adults) \$25 (Children under 12)

Schedule of Events:

Saturday, July 12:

10:00AM: Putt-Putt Contest at Fantasy Golf next to the Castlewood Motel in Maggie Valley. The registration fee is \$5.00 per person (open to adults and children) and there will be trophies.

2:00PM: Conferral of the Knight of York degree by Western Carolina YRC at Waynesville Lodge No. 259 located at 435 East Marshall Street, Waynesville, NC. Dress is business casual.

Evening (Time TBD): HART Theater (Footloose) on Saturday evening, July 12th. Please contact Robin Hargett at robinthargett@gmail.com or (704) 242-0885 for ticket prices. Make Payable to & mail payment to:

Robin Hargett
825 Holshouser Rd.
Rockwell, NC 28138

Sunday, July 13

Morning (Time TBD): Whitewater Rafting Trip. Contact Mark Alexander for details at (336) 984-9980 or cenobite13@hotmail.com

10:30AM: Church Service at the First Baptist Church of Maggie Valley.

3:00-5:00PM: Registration and Cookout, at the Maggie Valley Community Pavilion located at 3987 Soco Road, Maggie Valley, NC

Monday, July 14

9:00AM: Summer Assembly convenes.

Venue:

Haywood Community College
Student Center Auditorium
185 Freeland Drive
Clyde, NC

Moderator:

Russell E. Bridges, PMIGM

Introductions:

David Cashion, PMIGM

Special Guest Speakers:

Robert Wayne Rideout, Jr., Grand Master, Grand Lodge of North Carolina, A.F. & A.M.

15 Minute Recess

Brian R. Dodson, PGM, Grand Lodge of Texas Grand Sovereign, United Grand Imperial Council Red Cross of Constantine USA, Mexico, Philippines and its Jurisdictions

Reed B. Fanning, Jr., KYGCH-3 Quadrants General Grand Scribe, General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons International

12:00PM: Lunch on your own

3:00PM: Masonic Marker Address by:

A. Gene Cobb, Past Grand Master, Grand Lodge of North Carolina, A.F. & A.M.
SGIG for North Carolina & the II. Grand Chaplain, Supreme Grand Council of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, S. J.

7:00PM: Banquet Dinner & Entertainment at the Maggie Valley Club & Resort, 1819 Country Club Drive, Maggie Valley, NC

Tuesday, July 15

9:00AM: Summer Assembly reconvenes.

Special Guest Speaker:

Douglas R. Knauer, Most Venerable Sovereign Grand Master of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America

Remarks by North Carolina Grand Presiding Officers

Aims and Concerns of:

General Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, Int'l General Grand Council, Cryptic Masons, International Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, of the U.S.A.

Summation

12:00PM: Summer Assembly adjourns.

More information including forms, pamphlets, recommendations for hotels can be found on the website at:

<https://mwsite.org/sites/ncgssa/>

Important Reminders:

May 3: York Rite Honors Day, starting at 8:00AM, at Black Mountain Lodge, 105 Rock Church Street, [Black Mountain](#), NC, Lunch \$15

May 16: District 9 Meeting, starting at 7:30PM at Waynesville Lodge, [Waynesville](#), NC

May 17: District 8 Meeting, starting at 9:00AM at Hibriten Lodge, [North Wilkesboro](#), NC

May 24: Fayetteville Commandery Orders, starting at 8:00AM at the Fayetteville Masonic Temple, [Fayetteville](#), NC

May 29: Ascension Day Program, starting at 7:00PM at Southern Pines Lodge #484, 230 NW Broad St., [Southern Pines](#), NC (refreshments served afterward)

June 7: Raleigh York Rite Commandery Orders, starting at 8:00AM, at JJ Crowder Lodge, 11150 Durant Road, [Raleigh](#), NC