

# NEW HAMPSHIRE KNIGHT TEMPLAR NEWS



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*February is the shortest month, so if you're having a miserable month, try to schedule it for February.*

—Lemony Snicket

Sir Knights,

As I write, the snow is falling, though not like it was on Empower Field at Mile High, when our *Patriots* edged out the favored Denver *Broncos* to advance to the Super Bowl once again. In these fraught times, it felt good to have a reason to cheer.

Last summer my friend, Brother George Skaperdas, found the picture below in a scrap book. It was from the *Manchester Union Leader* in May 1949. The event was my father's first "date" with the beautiful, talented Julie Demos from Manchester Central High School. His then girlfriend claimed that he could never get a date with her. To this day, he smiles as he recalls the look on her face when he came down the stairs to the dance with the aforesaid Ms. Demos on his arm. Julie Demos would become my mother. They were together seventy-five years, until her passing. Nicholas Skaperdas and his son, George, would each become Master of Washington Lodge No. 61 in Manchester, as would George Tsirimokos' son, your editor. His grandson, Sir Knight George, joined DeMolay in Derryfield Chapter and is the current Senior Warden of Washington Lodge. He is also the fourth generation of the Tsirimokos Master Masons in Washington Lodge, after his great grandfather, Xenophon, his grandfather, and your editor.



**PREPARING FOR DEMOLAY DANCE**—Lining up plans for a dance at Masonic temple, to be sponsored by Derryfield chapter of the DeMolay on Friday, May 16, is the committee pictured above. Left to right: Nicholas Skaperdas, decorations committee; Philip Hugar, refreshments committee; Elliott Kimball, chairman; George Tsirimokos, publicity.

I was saddened to learn last month of the passing of Sir Knight George Daniel MacGregor Pushee, III, K.G.C., "Dan" to his familiars. He never held a national Masonic office but was the web master for Masonic bodies throughout the country. He created and maintained most of the web sites that we visit in our Fraternal journeys, particularly in the York Rite. He chaired the Electronic Communications Committee of the Grand Encampment. I got to know Dan well when I became your editor of what was then the New Hampshire Supplement to the *Knight Templar* Magazine. His tips on formatting helped me meet the limited space available for the supplements. He was a wealth of knowledge on Masonic topics and sources. Being fellow New Englanders, our discussions often deviated from goings on in the Fraternity to the state of the *Red Sox*, *Patriots*, or *Celtics*, "lobstahs," and other topics of mutual interest. I will miss him greatly.



Sir Knight Dan Pushee

Please note the Grand Commandery Officers Call, Sunday evening, February 1, next, at 8:00 p.m. The regular Drill Practice will be held in Concord, Friday evening, February 30, at 6:30 p.m.

Our Commanderies are preparing to confer the Orders starting next month. They need our help. Do not hesitate to lend a hand and take a part if asked. Better yet, don't wait to be asked; volunteer. The schedule of conferrals is as follows:

Saturday, March 14, Illustrious Order of the Red Cross conferred in Portsmouth by Trinity Commandery No. 1, DeWitt Clinton Commandery No. 2, and Saint George Commandery No. 8. Make lunch reservations with Sir Knight Peter B. Tarlton, Recorder, De Witt Clinton Commandery No 2, [pyrsecretary2024@gmail.com](mailto:pyrsecretary2024@gmail.com); and

Saturday, March 21, Order of Malta conferred in Concord by Mount Horeb Commandery No. 3, North Star Saint Gerard Commandery No. 4, and Palestine Commandery No. 11. Make lunch reservations with Sir Knight Anthony J. Tuttle, Recorder, Mount Horeb Commandery No.3, [tuttle.anthony3@gmail.com](mailto:tuttle.anthony3@gmail.com).

Courteously,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas X. Tsirimokos". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Thomas X. Tsirimokos, K.G.C., P.G.C., P.D.C.  
Assistant Grand Prelate, Grand Commandery of New Hampshire

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York Rite Calendar -- <https://nyorkrite.org/calendars>