

**GRAND COMMANDERY, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, OF THE
STATE OF GEORGIA**

**From the Apartment of the Right Eminent Grand
Commander Steve A. Kirk**

**GENERAL ORDER NUMBER 1
for the Templar Year of 2018-2019
Revised June 27, 2018**

**THIS ORDER SHALL BE READ AT THE HEAD OF THE COMMANDERY LINES IN EACH
COMMANDERY AT THE NEXT STATED CONCLAVE AND SHALL BE MADE A PART OF
THE MINUTES THEREOF.**

**TO: Constituent Commanderies, Grand Commandery Officers, and Right
Eminent Past Grand Commanders GREETINGS:**

BE IT HEREBY ORDERED: That during the 2018-2019 Grand Commandery Year, the
Grand Commandery of Georgia shall be organized into two Corps. The two Corps shall be
grouped into three Divisions each with the First Corps containing Divisions One, Two, and
Three and the Second Corps containing Divisions Four, Five, and Six.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED: That the First Corps shall be assigned to the Eminent Grand
Generalissimo and the Second Corps shall be assigned to the Very Eminent Deputy Grand
Commander.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED: That each Division will have a Grand Commandery Officer
assigned as Division Commander. The Division Commander assignments are as follows:

Division One: The Grand Warder

Division Two: The Grand Sword Bearer

Division Three: The Grand Standard Bearer, Sir Knight Ditmar W. Chavez

Division Four: The Grand Junior Warden

Division Five: The Grand Senior Warden, Sir Knight Robert L. Head

Division Six: The Grand Captain General, Sir Knight Carl J. Gamel

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED: That all Commanderies will be assigned to Divisions as
follows:

FIRST CORPS: Mark S. Johnson (22) 770-306-8708 mjfayette@aol.com

FIRST DIVISION: Raymond G. Laird (25) 678-642-7367 dyebama@bellsouth.net

Division Officers: Bruce D. Mann (17) 229-246-3046 bmanncpa@yahoo.com

Timothy E. Crimmins (5) 229-881-2495 tiedcrm@gmail.com

St. Paul No. 5 (Albany); Bethlehem No. 30 (Thomasville); Crusader No. 17 (Bainbridge); Mt.
Calvary No. 28 (Moultrie)

SECOND DIVISION: Tyler W. Pledger (29) 706-506-2113 doc42884@aol.com

Division Officers: James D. Reese (7) 912-659-4265 *No Email Address*

James R. Bennett (36) 912-337-0601 rustybenett038@gmail.com

Palestine No. 7 (Savannah); Malta No. 16 (Valdosta); St. Elmo No. 26 (Brunswick);

Waycross No. 36 (Waycross); Coastal Plain No. 42 (Tifton)

THIRD DIVISION: Ditmar W. Chavez (3) 706-644-3397 ditmarc47@aol.com

Division Officers: Jerry H. Purvis (43) 770-468-1073 jhp1861@gmail.com

Richard D. Brogdon (3) 706-587-160 fortbenninglodge@bellsouth.net

St. Omer No. 2 (Macon); Plantagenet No. 12 (Milledgeville); Ivanhoe No. 10 (Ft. Valley);

St. Aldemar No. 3 (Columbus); St. Peter No. 45 (Warner Robins)

SECOND CORPS: Brandon S. Yarbrough (35) 404-473-1872 byarbrough@gmail.com

FOURTH DIVISION: Tommy T. Marshall (36) 912-282-4493 tmarshall@btconline.net

Division Officers: Robert L. Hall, Jr. (26) 770-971-9856 robertjr.hall@att.net
Jan Maaskant, Jr. (9) 404-579-1235 jan.maaskant@gmail.com
Gary A. Palmer (4) 404-326-9675 garyapalmer40@gmail.com

Coeur de Lion No. 4 (College Park); Constantine No. 26 (Marietta); Atlanta No. 9 (Atlanta); Griffin No. 35 (Griffin); Douglasville No. 40 (Douglasville); Dekalb No. 38 (Decatur); Alexius No. 22 (Lovejoy); Tancred No. 11 (Newnan)

FIFTH DIVISION: Robert L. Head, Jr. (3) 706-905-7730 sonnyxone@gmail.com

Division Officers: William T. White (37) 478-997-1011 whiteyinga@gmail.com
James C. Durbin, Sr. (8) 706-409-0496 durbin1015@aol.com

Rome No. 8 (Rome); St. John's No. 19 (Dalton); Amicalola No. 41 (Jasper); Charles Martel No. 29 (Chickamauga); Blue Ridge Mtn. No. 37 (McCaysville)

SIXTH DIVISION: Carl J. Gamel (40) 404-435-6754 carlgamel@gmail.com

Division Officers: Joseph R. Bush (31) 628-308-0344 joebush1207@gmail.com
Dale B. Cliett (G01) 706-831-9273 cliettp@knology.net

Georgia No. 1 (Augusta); Philemon No. 33 (Toccoa); St. Bernard No. 25 (Covington); Godfrey de Bouillon No. 14 (Elberton); Arnold de Troye No. 31 (Buford); Pilgrim No. 15 (Gainesville)

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED: That the Corps Commanders will Command, Assist, and supervise their respective Divisions.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED: That the Division Commanders shall (1) Maintain direct communication with the Right Eminent Grand Commander, the Corps Commander and the Eminent Grand Recorder's Office with respect to each Commandery in his Division, as to ritual, opening, tactics, armory, regalia, programs, and/or any special needs or assistance; (2) Visit each Commandery in his respective Division as often as needed, but at least once during the Commandery year; and (3) Represent the Grand Commander when requested to do so. To assist the Division Commanders and Liaison officers a report form has been prepared for your use.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED: That the Division Commanders will assist all Grand Inspecting Officers assigned, by the Right Eminent Grand Commander, to their respective Divisions.

GRAND LIAISON OFFICERS

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED: That one or more Grand Liaison Officers will be appointed by the Right Eminent Grand Commander, from recommendations by the Division and Corps Commanders, to assist the Division Commanders with their assigned duties. The Grand Liaison Officers will report to and represent the Division Commander while on official business and will be afforded the respect and honors due a Grand Commandery Officer. The Grand Liaison Officers shall wear a shoulder cord as recognition of their office.

INSPECTIONS

All Commanderies shall be inspected by March 1, 2019. It is the duty and obligation of each Grand Inspecting Officer to be fair, objective, and impartial in inspecting a Commandery.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED: That the Eminent Commander shall assemble the Sir Knights of his Commandery, on the assigned Inspection Date, for the purpose of holding their Annual Inspection. The Inspection shall be held in accordance with the Tactics and Customs of this Grand Jurisdiction. The Eminent Commander shall see that each Sir Knight, in the line, is in full uniform. The full uniform consists of a chapeau, white shirt, black tie, black coat, black trousers, black shoes, black socks, sword and belt. The wearing of this uniform symbolizes us as the Christian Soldiers within the Masonic Fraternity and we should each take personal pride in wearing it as a statement of who we are and what we represent.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED: That the Recorder will furnish the Grand Inspecting Officer such information that will enable him to answer all questions on the Inspection Form. The completed Inspection Form will be forwarded to the Office of the Grand Recorder within ten (10) days after the Inspection by the Grand Inspecting Officer.

BONDS

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED: That as per the Grand Commandery Constitution, Statutes, and Regulations that the Treasurer and Recorder of each Constituent Commandery will be bonded, unless the Commandery By-laws require more than one signature on a voucher or check before any monies are disbursed. The Grand Inspecting Officer will verify if either method is in order.

AUDIT

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED: That written proof of the last audit, showing date audited, will be provided to the Grand Inspecting Officer.

CHARITIES

It is my hope and prayer that each Sir Knight, within this Grand Jurisdiction, shall continue to contribute to our charities as liberally as his ability permits. Let us continue our efforts to support the Grand Encampment's Knight Templar Eye Foundation Inc., and the Molly S. Moseley Eye Foundation Trust of Georgia, Inc. This year I would hope that every Commandery in Georgia could send a minister to the Holy Land. I know it is difficult for some Commanderies to accomplish this feat alone. I therefore encourage each Commandery that can't individually sponsor a Minister to join with another Commandery(s) and jointly send a minister to the Holy Land. So PLEASE plan a fundraiser whereby funds are annually set aside to sponsor a minister and then use those funds at the appropriate time to sponsor your selected minister.

FUNDRAISERS

Please support as many fundraisers as you can, either monetarily or by spending time participating in these worthwhile projects. Any ideas for future fundraisers will be well received by your Grand York Rite Officers. Let's try to execute the gun giveaway in a more timely and orderly fashion with all tickets sold by the beginning of January 2019.

FESTIVALS

All Commanderies participating in York Rite Festivals, where all the York Rite Degrees/Orders are conferred, are encouraged to confer the Templar Orders on a separate date when possible. When the Templar Orders are conferred, all candidates should be appropriately dressed in coat and tie.

MEMBERSHIP

The Masonic Fraternity, as a whole, is suffering from a decline in membership. Our beloved Christian Order unfortunately is not exempt from this decline. As a Christian Knight, we should always keep a watchful eye for a worthy candidate to become a member of our Christian Order. As Christian Knights, we have the best selling point in all of Masonry, the belief in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. In our daily walk through life we should each act as a disciple of our Lord and Savior. Each day we should each act in a manner that demonstrates the true value of our Christian Order, so others will want to be a part of our Magnanimous Order. This year our participation in these following activities will appear on the inspection tally sheet and will be added to or subtracted from your inspection score: 1) Hold a Christmas Observance; 2) Hold an Easter Observance; 3) Holy Land Pilgrimage (sent or saving monies to send a minister). Each activity has a ten point value, 4) one fundraiser in each Commandery to support one of our charities or a need in the local community.

COMMITTEES

The successful completion of our many projects rests solely on the dedicated work of the members appointed to the various Committees. I have appointed those Sir Knights that I feel will excel in the tasks at hand. Some changes have been made, so please use due diligence in the Committees, to which you have been assigned.

APPRECIATION

In appreciation for what they did for me, I would like to dedicate this Templar year to the memory of Right Eminent Past Grand Commanders Grady T. Bozeman and Bobby J. Townsend. Both were mentors to me and their advice and instruction has benefitted me greatly throughout my Masonic career. I am beholden to all my Masonic Brothers, Companions, and Sir Knights, for their fellowship, advice, and support. Words are insufficient to express my humility at being placed in this position. I am your humble servant and look forward to serving this year. Sir Knights, as we approach this new year in Templary, let us not forget that we are sworn defenders of the Christian Religion, not just when we are in the asylum but all day every day, in every situation. Sir Knights, when in doubt about which way to go, "take a knee" and seek that wisdom that only comes from above.

Sir Knights, it would be my hope that we enjoy the coming year. There is a time to be serious, but I am a firm believer that the Good Master appreciates a smiling face. Remember, if it isn't fun, why bother?

All Sir Knights of Georgia shall take due notice and govern themselves according to the sublime principles of this Magnanimous Order. Respectfully ordered on this the 8th day of May in 2018.

Attest:

Steve A. Kirk
Right Eminent Grand Commander
of the State of Georgia

Wade C. Smith
Eminent Grand Recorder
of the State of Georgia