



The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of The State of Georgia

From the Apartment of the Right Eminent Grand Commander

Brandon S. Yarbrough

GENERAL ORDER NO. 1

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: Grand Commandery Officers, Past Grand Commanders and Constituent Commanderies.

Greetings:

BE IT HEREBY ORDERED: That during the 2019-2020 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, William Grist

Division Two: The Grand Sword Bearer, Daniel Ricketts

Division Three: The Grand Standard Bearer, Sir Knight Raymond Laird

Division Four: The Grand Junior Warden, Sir Knight Tyler W. Pledger

Division Five: The Grand Senior Warden, Sir Knight Ditmar W. Chavez

Division Six: The Grand Captain General, Sir Knight Tommy T. Marshall

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

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

FIRST DIVISION: William Grist (37)

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

Crusader No. 17 (Bainbridge); Bethlehem No. 30 (Thomasville)

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

St. Paul No. 5 (Albany); Mt. Calvary No. 28 (Moultrie)

SECOND DIVISION: Daniel Ricketts (26)

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

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

James R. Bennett (36) 912-337-0601 rustybennett038@gmail.com

Malta No. 16 (Valdosta); Waycross No. 36 (Waycross); Coastal Plain No. 42 (Tifton)

THIRD DIVISION: Raymond Laird (25)

678-642-7367

dyebama@gmail.com

Division Officers: **Jerry H. Purvis (2)**

770-468-1073

jhp1861@gmail.com

St. Omer No. 2 (Macon); Plantagenet No. 12 (Milledgeville);

St. Peter No. 45 (Warner Robins)

Scott Pless (3)

706-593-3283

spless661@gmail.com

Ivanhoe No. 10 (Ft. Valley); St. Aldemar No. 3 (Columbus)

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

FOURTH DIVISION: Tyler W. Pledger (29) 706-506-2113 doc42884@aol.com
 Division Officers: **Robert L. Hall, Jr. (26) 770-971-9856 robertjr.hall@att.net**
 Constantine No. 26 (Marietta); Douglasville No. 40 (Douglasville)
Jack J. Bell (9) 770-570-2446 jjbell00@aol.com
 Coeur de Lion No. 4 (College Park); Atlanta No. 9 (Atlanta); Dekalb No. 38 (Decatur)
Russell S. Sanders (11) 706-588-8336 rsanders9009@gmail.com
 Tancred No. 11 (Newnan); Alexius No. 22 (Lovejoy); Griffin No. 35 (Griffin)

FIFTH DIVISION: Ditmar W. Chavez (3) 706-442-4534 ditmarc47@gmail.com
 Division Officers: **William T. White (37) 478-997-1011 whiteyinga@gmail.com**
 Blue Ridge Mtn. No. 37 (McCaysville); Amicalola No. 41 (Jasper)
James C. Durbin, Sr. (8) 706-409-0496 durbin1015@aol.com
 Rome No. 8 (Rome); St. John's No. 19 (Dalton); Charles Martel No. 29 (Chickamauga)

SIXTH DIVISION: Tommy T. Marshall (36) 912-282-4493 tmarshall@btconline.net
 Division Officers: **Leonard A. Davis (11) 706-333-7110 len.davis1@gmail.com**
 Philemon No. 33 (Toccoa); Arnold de Troye No. 31 (Buford); Pilgrim No. 15 (Gainesville)
Dale B. Cliett (1) 706-831-9273 cliettp@knology.net
 Georgia No. 1 (Augusta); Godfrey de Bouillon No. 14 (Elberton);
 St. Bernard No. 25 (Covington);

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. (4) To promote programs of involvement that will enhance Templary.

GRAND LIAISON OFFICERS

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED: That Grand Liaison Officers are appointed by the Right Eminent Grand Commander. The Grand Liaison Officers will report to and represent the Grand Commander and or the Division Commander while on official business and will be afforded the respect and honors due a Grand Commandery Officer. Each Grand Liaison Officer will make one Official Visit to their Respective Commanderies in the Templar Year, Attend the Annual Inspection of their Respective Commanderies and Attend the Grand Commandery Conclave. The Grand Liaison Officers shall wear a red and green shoulder cord as recognition of their office.

INSPECTIONS

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED: That all Commanderies shall be inspected by March 1, 2020. 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 in accordance with the Grand Commandery Code and the Grand Encampment Constitution. The 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. All Grand Inspecting Officers MUST use the current Inspection Report form. All outdated Inspection Report forms will be rejected.

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.

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., the Molly S. Moseley Eye Foundation Trust of Georgia, Inc. and the Knights Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage. I would like for every Commandery in Georgia to work toward the goal of sending 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 cannot individually sponsor a Minister to join with another Commandery(s) and jointly send a minister to the Holy Land. I would like for our Grand Commandery to send a total of 10 ministers to the Holy Land in 2020.

FUNDRAISERS

I encourage every Commandery to hold at least one fundraiser per year to support the Commanderies programs and the Charitable efforts of the Grand Commandery. Please support as many fundraisers as you can, either monetarily or by spending time participating in these worthwhile projects.

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. I encourage the full conferral of the Templar Orders. We rob much from our candidates and ourselves when we exemplify the Order of the Red Cross and the Order of Malta in short form. When the Templar Orders are conferred, all candidates should be appropriately dressed in coat and tie.

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. Your knowledge, experience and dedication to the Order have afforded you this important trust. Changes have been made, so please use due diligence in the Committees, to which you have you been assigned.

APPRECIATION

First I must thank our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ for affording me the time, talent and treasure to devote to the Grand Commandery line over the past several years and for the opportunity to serve in the highest Office of Christian Masonry in Georgia. I am also eternally grateful to the past and present members of Griffin Commandery No. 35 who accepted, encouraged and assisted me with your Brotherly Love and Christian Fellowship.

I am overwhelmed with gratitude and emotion for the trust and honor you have bestowed upon me in this Magnanimous Office. It gives me a great deal of pride to serve each of you and therefore be first in service to Georgia Templary. Together we can accomplish many great things. Each of us will carry the Cross unsullied in this upcoming Templar Year.

Proverbs 16:3 describes what we will do this Year - "Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established." Together we will move Templary Forward in 2019-2020. I solicit your Prayers and Words of Council and Comfort.

Finally, let us all remember that we are Christian Soldiers. Let each of us so act before God and Man. We are Knights Templar each and every day, and may we ever "Let your Light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify our Father which art in Heaven."

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 6th day of May in 2019.

Brandon S. Yarbrough

Brandon S. Yarbrough, KCT
Right Eminent Grand Commander

Attest:

Mark A. Bradley
Eminent Grand Recorder