



RITE NOTES

Increase Activity

Part 4

15 August 2025

Companions and Sir Knights,

It's that time of year, when the big push needs to begin. We have three (3) major festivals coming up (**12-13 September in Stuart, FL; 4 and 11 October in Tampa, FL; and 4 and 18 October in Palatka, FL**).

Prepare your candidates and future candidates for these festivals.

In the last three months we have spoken about: building attendance and building active members.

Now in part four (4), we look to increase activities.

Unless there's some local prohibition, there's no law that says you can't meet more than once a month. Use that time for social activities, fun nights, banquets, festive boards and more. Choose some fun activities, some things that can be done includes:

-FESTIVE BOARDS- Traditional time of feasting, these Masonic events are common in most places in the world except the US, where the custom is slowly being revived. They include toasting, a good meal, some short Masonic talks and fellowship.

-PAST PRESIDING OFFICERS' NIGHT- Whatever you call your past presiding officers, this night can honor those who have provided leadership over the years. It can also be a good way to bring out some of the older members who have become inactive over time.

-DEGREE NIGHTS- Even if you don't have any candidates, you still can have degree nights with a pro-tem candidate. This keeps the lessons of the degrees in front of your members while keeping you ready for the days when you will have a candidates. If you plan for candidates, you will get them.

-FAMILY/LADIES NIGHTS- Be sure to include spouses and families in activities. Members, especially younger ones are looking for activities where they can involve the family.

-AWARDS NIGHTS- Honor those who have served. There are numerous awards that can be given out. Inquire of your Grand Body,, and then utilize them. Present them in ways that bring honor to individuals that deserve to be recognized for outstanding service.

-GOLF OUTINGS/PICNICS/CAMPOUTS- Summer and warm weather can offer opportunities for fellowship and fun. Use your imagination. Find out what kind of outdoor activities your members enjoy, and build on it.

-INSTALLATIONS ARE AN EVENT- The annual change of command should not be relegated to a regular meeting. If you can, open it to the public. Have at least the key officers wear tuxedos. Serve a dinner; make it an event to attend. Invite in visiting officers to install. Make it a special night.

These ideas should whet the creative appetite. You can build from here. The opportunities are limited to your imagination and what your members are willing to do.

Remember, equip, train and send out the troops, and they will come back with results!

Note: If any York Rite Bodies plan weekend festivals, Short of Time or Slow Classes, please let me know, with the date, time, location and contact person, for the Fall of 2020 and I will put it in the next newsletter, and on the website. Remember, Membership and Retention is everyone=s business.

There is no substitute for an all-out campaign to strengthen and build our membership.

Membership and Retention is everyone's business.

EXCERPTS FROM THE GRAND CHAPTER OF FLORIDA

CHAPTER TWENTY-THREE: APPOINTED NCHAPTER OFFICERS

23.01 HIGH PRIEST TO APPOINT.

The High Priest of each constituent Chapter shall appoint such appointed Officers as are provided for in the Constitution of this Grand Chapter which Officers shall serve their appointed terms at the will and pleasure of the High Priest. Vacancies in such offices shall be filled by further appointment of the High Priest, who shall install such appointees, vacancies so filled shall be reported to the Grand Secretary by the Secretary of the Chapter, and under its Seal.

There is no substitute for an all-out campaign to strengthen and build our membership.

Companions, our recruiting efforts are paying off. With three festivals completed for the fall, and two to go, we have already knighted 61 new knights. With Ft Pierce and Tampa, we should go well beyond our numbers for last year. Great work.

Membership by Chapter for 2025:

DIST	LOCATION	#	DIST	LOCATION	#
1	Palm Beach (Boca-Delray)	7	6	Cocoa	1
	Ft Lauderdale			Melbourne	
	Miami	1		Fort Pierce	3
2	Manatee/ Bradenton/ Trinity	4	7	Jacksonville	3
	Sarasota/ Venice/ Fort Myers	6		Fernandina	2
				Palatka	6

3	Tampa (Ivanhoe)	2	8	Lake City	
	St. Petersburg (Sunshine)	1		Middleburg	1
	Clearwater (Springtime)	1		Gainesville	1
4	Lakeland	1	9	Tallahassee	
	Plant City	5		Marianna	
	Sebring (Highlands)	2		Panama City	
5	Daytona (Halifax)	5	10	Fort Walton Beach	
	Lake Sumter	6		Crestview	
	Sanford			Pensacola	
	Orlando	2			

REMINDER: MASONIC MEMBERSHIP SOLUTIONS (MMS) RULES STATE THAT NEW COMPANIONS AND SIR KNIGHTS NEED TO BE PLACED IN MMS WITHIN 15 DAYS. If this is not done, the magazine will not be sent automatically. The Secretary will have to contact Grand Encampment.

MMS IS NOW ON GOOGLE CHROME

New Membership by York Rite District 2025:

DIST	DATE	LOCATION	KNIGHTED
1			
2			
3	1 & 8 Mar 25 Oct 25	Tampa (2), Plant City (5), Lakeland (1), Sebring (2), Orlando (2), Lake Sumter (2), Manatee (4), Ft Myers (6), St Petersburg (1), Clearwater (1)	26
4			
5			

6	28-29 Mar 14-15 Sep 25	Ft Pierce (3), Tallahassee (1), WPB(Boca-Delray) (6), Palatka (1)	12
7	8 & 15 Feb	Palatka (5), Jacksonville (3), Gainesville (1), Miami (1), Lake Sumter (4), Daytona (5), Middleburg (1), Fernandina Beach (2), Cocoa (1)	23
8			
9	Mar 25	Tallahassee	
10			
TOTAL 2025 KNIGHTINGS			61
TOTAL 2024 KNIGHTINGS			76

Also, as soon as your area determines the dates for the Fall Festival, **PLEASE** let me know so they may be included.

Fraternally,

Henry A. Adams
HENRY A. ADAMS, KYGCH

Every Christian Mason Should Be A Knight Templar"

Some excerpts, from the Grand Commanders Handbook, published by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States, reprint from Aug 2009, intro. and Grand Commandery of Florida, Baderstadt, Jon L. " Making Members" pp 73-75, and from the Grand Commanders Handbook given to the Grand Line Officers. Membership Development, Grand Encampment, 2003-2006

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