



From the Desk of the Grand Commander

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May 21, 2018

TO: Elected and Appointed Grand Officers; Past Grand Officers; Division Commanders; Officers and Members of the Constituent Commanderies of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania:

GENERAL ORDER NUMBER ONE

GREETINGS:

Sir Knights:

I am deeply humbled, and greatly honored to serve as your Grand Commander for the ensuing year. Lady Brenda and I pledge to serve the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania to the best of our abilities. My theme this year is **“Put on the Whole Armor of God.”** With this as my motto, I will represent our Grand Commandery in my travels with dignity, brotherly love, and Christian principles.

I encourage each Commandery in this Grand Jurisdiction to engage in at least one Religious activity this year as a Commandery. Advent, Christmas, the Lenten Season, Good Friday, Easter and Ascension Day are special opportunities to do this. We are Christian Knights, so let us be Christians. We have sworn to *feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and bind up the wounds of the afflicted*. Donning the Breastplate of righteousness, let us live by these Christian principles. Join with a local church to help feed the needy or hold a food drive for a local food pantry, conduct a coat drive before the cold winter weather, visit our shut-ins. These are but a few of the ways we can uphold these principles; even just showing a little kindness goes a long way.

This year we will continue the workshop program in each Commandery. I believe that the Workshops, which we conducted in every Commandery this past year, have enabled our Commanderies to show improvement in their Drill and Tactics. Therefore,

Division Commanders will again be responsible for conducting a Workshop in each of their Commanderies. Every Commandery will have at least one Workshop this year. The guidelines for the workshops will be posted on the Grand Commandery web site. The Division Commander may choose a qualified Sir Knight to assist at the workshop or to lead it. The Division Commander may work in conjunction with the Eminent Commander as to what he feels would be the most beneficial instruction for their Commandery. An inspection may be conducted at the request of any Commandery that desires this additional review. It will still be the duty of the Division Commander to examine the records of each of the Commanderies in his Division.

Each Commandery is to perform the Rehearsal of Duties at least twice during the Templar year. This is an important part of our Ritual and needs to be maintained.

This year we will reinstate the Outstanding Commanders Award. The updated requirements will be posted on the Grand Commandery Web Site in the near future.

Sectional/Division Receptions will be held throughout the year. The purpose of these receptions is for the members in the Section to meet the Grand Officers. The Grand officers truly want to meet each of you. We really want your input. At any given reception at least one Grand Officer has travelled a considerable distance, and some may have to stay somewhere over night. Since they are making this effort to meet you, I am requesting that each of the members of the Commanderies in the Section make an honest effort to attend their Reception and meet their Grand Commandery officers.

Some Dates to Remember:

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| June 30 | Lewisburg Veterans Parade -- Lewisburg |
| July 4 | 4 th of July Parade ----- Pottstown, and elsewhere |
| July 28 | GC Testimonial ----- Scranton |
| August 11 | One Day Conferral ----- York |
| August 25 | Southeast Reception |
| Sept. 15 | Division 11 Reception -----Gettysburg |
| Sept. 16 | Gettysburg Memorial Service- Gettysburg |
| Sept. 22 | Autumn Days -----Elizabethtown |
| Nov. 9-10 | Line Officers Seminar ----- Elizabethtown |
| May 17-19 | 166 th Annual Conclave -----Scranton |

Masonry makes good men better;
Templary makes good masons better.

All preceding parts of this General Order, to this point, are to be read in full at the next stated conclave of each Commandery, and the entire General Order entered in full or attached to the records.

Only those portions of the Jurisdictional Assignments which pertain to your respective Section, Division, and Commandery are required to be read.

Given under my hand and seal of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Pennsylvania this day, May 21, in the year of our Lord 2018, A.O. 910.

Benjamin A. Beynon
Grand Commander

Attest: Douglas M. Rowe, Grand Recorder