



Knightly News

The Grand Council of Knight Masons of the United States of America
PMB 234, 4094 Majestic Lane, Fairfax Virginia, USA 22033-2104

Spring 2010
Volume 14 Number 1

Headlines

- Grand Officers elected and appointed
- Four New Councils Chartered
- First Council in Louisiana

From the Great Chief

Congratulations to the Grand Officers installed at the Annual Meeting of the Knight Masons of the U.S.A., and especially welcome to our new Grand Sentinel Sir Knight Joseph Crociata. I want to thank the Installing Team of M.:E.: Terry W. McCammon, M.:E.: Edward H. Fowler, Jr., and M.:E.: Douglas L. Jordan for their services. Also, many thanks to R.E. Charles W. Wagner for his years of service as our Grand Treasurer. He has since been elected and installed as M.:I.: Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Washington, D.C. Congratulations, Buddy!

Our Green Degrees complement the Red Degrees of the Holy Royal Arch. We, as an invitational body, should

always keep in the forefront the need to be selective in the nomination of any Companion to unite with us. Look, judge, and then submit the names of those Royal Arch Masons, who will appreciate, enjoy and fully understand the meaning of our endeavors.

Tentative plans are being made to change and enhance our program at the next Grand Council meeting—possibly to confer one or more of the Degrees. More on this later.

Thank to all of the Cousins for your support which has enabled us to continue to prosper and grow throughout the past year. I look forward to a bright future,



ME Edward P. Fagan, Jr.
Great Chief

Grand Officers—2010

Edward P. Fagan, Jr. Great Chief
Kevin B. Sample .. Deputy Great Chief
C. Michael WatsonGrand Sr Knight
Kenneth B. Fischer Grand Jr Knight
Douglas L. JordanGrand Scribe
Malcolm R. Holley Jr Grand Treasurer
Edwin R. Carpenter Grand Trs. Em.
David L. Hargett, Jr. Grand Sr Warden
Matthew D. Dupee ...Grand Jr Warden
Andre E. Lovas Grand Dir of C.
D. Allen SurrattGrand Priest
William R. MillerGrand Steward
Joseph S. CrociataGrand Sentinel
Chris M. Jessen Grand Musician
Bryce B. Hildreth Excellent Chief

Holley Elected Grand Treasurer

Sir Kt. Malcolm R. Holley, Jr. of Henrico, Virginia was elected Grand Treasurer following the resignation of RE Sir Kt. Charles W. Wagner. Sir Kt. Holley is an officer and member of King Darius Council 17 and serves the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Virginia as Chairman of the Finance Committee. He served the Grand Commandery as Grand Treasurer for four years until he was elected Grand Warder in 2009. He is Past Master of two lodges, a 33rd degree Scottish Rite Mason, a Knight of the York Cross of Honour, a VII° member of the SRICF and an Honorary Member

of the DeMolay Legion of Honor.

Sir Kt Holley has worked in financial management since 1978 and currently is the Chief Financial Officer for Quality Health Strategies, Inc. and Subsidiaries of Easton, Maryland. His responsibilities include financial systems management of the holding company and its operational subsidiaries, most of which are government contractors.

Sr. Kt. Holley is married. He and his wife, Pamela, have two children, Michael and Danielle. Pamela is an educator for the Henrico County Public

Schools, Michael works for the University of Virginia in information technology and Danielle is graduating from Albany Law School in May 2010.

Ray Wesley Burgess Council No. 103—First Council in Louisiana

By William J. Mollere



Seated L to R - Grand Master Jeff Webb, Past Great Chief Van Evans, Excellent Chief John Belanger, Great Chief Dennis Zier
 2nd Row:- Joel Ratliff, Keith Powell, B J Guillot, Lloyd Hebert, Ballard Smith, Ed Reine, Larry Plaisanc
 3rd Row - Ion Lazar, Mickey Durand, Howard Entwistle, Frank duTreil, Clay Wolfe, William Mollere

After several years of attempts to start a Knight Masons Council in Louisiana, permission was granted by the Grand Master of Louisiana, M W Jeff Webb, and members belonging to Great Chief's Council and to Tara Council organized Louisiana's first Knight Masons Council, Ray Wesley

Burgess Council #103, named for a Past Grand Master of Louisiana who dedicated himself to Masonic research and to expanding Masonic Light. On Saturday afternoon, January 16, eleven Louisiana Cousins, four Candidates, a visiting Virginia Cousin, a Past Great Chief and the

Great Chief gathered to institute, install and initiate the new Burgess Council. Great Chief, Dennis Zier, arrived from New York just before the meeting, and was assisted by Past Great Chief, Van Evans of Mississippi. The Great Chief opened the Grand Council and instituted Ray W. Burgess Council #103; then opened Ray W. Burgess Council and installed the new Officers and proceeded to initiate the new Cousins, including Grand Master Webb. Following the first meeting of the new Council where business was conducted, a meal was held at a local restaurant noted for its Cajun cuisine, and the food and fellowship were enjoyed by all. The Great Chief was returned to the airport and returned home later in the evening, and a great event closed with fifteen Louisiana Cousins enjoying the honor of being the newest Council in the Grand Council. Special thanks is given to Grand Scribe, Doug Jordan, for his patience, persistence and assistance in the endeavor. The membership includes Grand Lodge Officers, Grand Officers of all York Rite Bodies, the SGIG and Orient Officers of Scottish Rite, and Honorary Members Zier and Evans.

Great Chief Honored

On February 23rd, shortly after being installed, Great Chef Edward P. Fagan, Jr. visited Washington Commandery No.1 in Est Hartford, Connecticut. He was formally received and welcomed as an Honorary Member of the Commandery. Washington Commandery is one of the oldest within the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar. It was instituted in Colchester Connecticut in 1796 but not chartered until 1801. It moved to East Hartford I 1819 and has been there ever since. ME Sir Knight Fagan is pictured with Sir Knight Michael E. Seamon, Eminent Commander of Washington Commandery who was recently Knighted in Mohawk Council No. 28.



Scribes Take Notice

All councils must again file an "E-Postcard 990" report with the IRS. This report can must be filed on-line, by May 15, 2010 for the year ending December 31, 2009. If you have any questions, go to www.irs.gov and search for "990N" in the search box on the upper right of the page. Many Councils had problems filing last year because of omissions from the IRS data base. I have been working with the all year and I believe the problem has been corrected.

Rock of Cashel Council #100 – St. Patrick’s Donnybrook

By Roger E. Duncan

On St. Patrick’s Day, Wednesday, March 17, 2010, Rock of Cashel Council No. 100 held the first meeting since receiving its Charter from the Grand Council of Knight Masons of the United States of America. The meeting was preceded by a banquet consisting of traditional Irish fare including Irish stew, potatoes, Irish bread, salad and dessert – all prepared by Scribe Larry Adams. This was thoroughly enjoyed by the sixteen Sir Knights and their Ladies. A short business meeting followed.

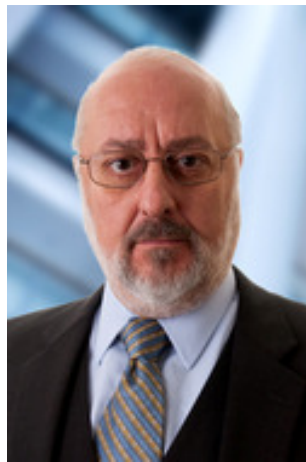
A good time was had by all, and the Sir Knights agreed that henceforth the Council will hold its semi-annual meeting on the Wednesday closest to March 17 in order to observe the date and to provide the Sir Knights and Ladies with an opportunity to celebrate this festive occasion.



From the left: FJ Pepper, Raymond D. Steele, Larry L. Adams, II, J. Edward Swindell, Wayne E. Price, Charles A. Bennett, Jr., Terry R. Shaffer, M.E. Douglas L. Jordan, Darryl Bowser, Ex. Jeffrey G. Burcham, James W. Feeley, Jr., Raymond M. Moats, Michael Judson, Joel D. Ratliff, Samuel Cochran, and Roger E. Duncan

Grand Sentinel Joseph S. Crociata

Sit Kt. Joseph S Crociata, a Life Member of St. Bridget’s Council 23 and Excellent Chief of Colmcille 77, was appointed to the office of Grand Sentinel. He was born in Rochester, NY, the son of a chef who was the son of a chef. He earned a BA degree from the State University of New York at Brockport and a Juris Doctor from Washington College of Law of the American University. Sir Kt. Corciata is a Founding Partner of Bonner Kieran Trebach & Crociata LLP, and is one of the firm’s senior trial attorneys.



In Masonry, since being raised in 1981 in Craftsman (now Craftsman-Robertson) Lodge No. 969, Rochester, NY; he has affiliated with five other lodges, served as Master of two and Charter Secretary of a third. He is a member of the York Rite and Scottish Rite bodies in the Chicago

area and affiliated with the Valley of DC in the Scottish Rite where he received the K.C.C.H. honor in 2007. He was a Founding Member of the Washington, D.C. College, SRICF in 2006.

In 2005 he was elected into the

Grand Line of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia and is currently serving as Senior Grand Warden. The Grand Lodge recognized his outstanding work by awarding him the 2009 Valentine Reintzel Medal for Meritorious Service.

He and his wife Susan, (a retired lawyer in Cape May Point, NJ), have a daughter Christine (a soon-to-be Master of Speech Therapy in Chicago, IL) and most importantly Grandson Charlie (a/k/a "the family Lewis"), age 5.

He states that when not busy with law and Masonry he has been “a private pilot for almost 40 years, a terrible golfer, a worse tennis player, a long-suffering fan of the Chicago Cubs, and a self-proclaimed connoisseur of good food, fine cigars and single malt scotch.”

Annual Meeting Notes

Ex. James Shaw, acting for Ex. Robert Burleson opened the Annual Meeting of Great Chief's Council No. 0 in the Magnolia Room of the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center at 8:30 a.m. on February 12, 2010. Applications were accepted from nine candidates who were then obligated and instructed. The new members were welcomed by the Excellent Chief and Great Chief. The Council was then closed in ample form and The Grand Council resumed labor.

Because of the weather (2.5 feet of snow on the airport runway) several officers and many members were absent, but 128 members from 43 councils registered and business was completed.

In his Allocution Great Chief Zier noted: "One of the high points of my term was when my path took me to Pine Bluff, Arkansas on June 6th where I had the privilege of Instituting Harvey I. Mize Council No. 101. It was my first opportunity to exercise this power of the Great Chief, and I will cherish the warmth of the reception and impressive caliber of the nearly 40 Cousins who were Charter Members of this Council. My thanks to Royce H. Taylor who was installed as Excellent Chief for all the effort he put in to arranging the date.

"I am grateful and delighted that I did have the chance in the closing days of my year to go where no Knight



**ME Dennis N. Zier
Great Chief – 2009**

Mason in the U.S.A. had gone before when I Instituted Ray Wesley Burgess Council No. 103 on January 16, 2010 in Alexandria, Louisiana. Not only did we add a new Council to Knight Masonry in the U.S.A., but we added a new State, bringing the total under the Grand Council's jurisdiction to 39! Special thanks to M.E.P.G.C. Van Evans for assisting me in the Institution and for his tireless work to nail down all the necessary commitments and approvals to allow the Council to be created. I also want to thank John L. Belanger who I installed as Excellent Chief for his incredible hospitality and warmth and to compliment him on the caliber of the Charter Members of this fine new Council."

"In my travels this year I have been pleased to meet so many leaders in the craft whose early Masonic

experience was formed, like mine, in the Masonic youth organization DeMolay. There is something about that organization that builds its members into capable men and good Masons. It is for that reason that I am recommending that Knight Masonry once again contribute to that organization as part of its annual contribution.

"I was also incredibly impressed with the quality of the new Members in the Councils I instituted. Not only are they men of distinguished Masonic rank, but they are enthusiastic about learning and properly performing the ritual of Knight Masonry. I am confident the Arkansas and Louisiana Councils will thrive and be magnets for high quality new Members.

Charters were granted to four councils: Rock of Cashel No. 100, Harvey I. Mize No. 101, Mike Donegan No. 102, and Ray Wesley Burgess No. 103.

Following his report, Grand Treasurer Charles W. Wagner thanked the membership for electing him as Grand Treasurer for the past eight years and announced that he was retiring from the office.

The Grand Scribe reported that the members of one council had surrendered their charter after several years of inactivity. As of March 15, 95 of the remaining 100 councils had reported 7825 members—a gain of 203 from last year.

First Class Mail

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