



UNITED GRAND COMMANDERY OF PA.

Masonic Knights Templar – P.H.A.

Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania

Grand Commanders's Address



Sir Nicholas Bagley III
Most Eminent Grand Commander

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August 1, 2020

Always giving Honor to Our Lord & Savior whom created us and we put our trust In Him.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Honorable Melvin A. Alston Sr. No .9

Right Eminent Deputy Grand Commander Sir Carlee London, Eminent Grand Generalissimo, Sir Larry O. Grant, Eminent Grand Captain General, Sir Michael Stewart and Eminent Grand Prelate, Sir Joseph L. Saunders,

Eminent Grand Senior and Junior Wardens, Past Most Eminent Grand Commanders, Past Eminent Grand Commanders, Appointed Grand Commandery Officers, Eminent Commanders, Generalissimos, Captain Generals, Past Eminent Commanders, and Sir Knights All,

Greetings:

LET US PRAY

Sir Knights, but when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knows what things ye have need of, before you ask Him. Father we stretch our hands to thee for no other help we know. We believe and put our trust in you because we know you will guide us and protect us as we endeavor to do your good works for uplifting The United Grand Commandery of Pa. as we commit and humble ourselves.

United as One & All for One in Jesus name, we pray,

Amen! Amen! Amen!

Sir Knights, I appear before you this morning with a heart filled with humility and joy. Through the grace and mercy of our Lord and Savior and with the tremendous support of our Officers and Sir Knights, we have made it through another year!

Pursuant to Article IX, Section 1 of the Constitution, we are assembled today at our 190th Annual Grand Conclave to review the State of Masonic Knights Templar - Prince Hall Affiliated in Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, to transact the business of this Grand Conclave which will govern us into the next Templar year. This Grand Conclave is unprecedented due to the fact that this is the first virtual Grand Conclave in the history of Knight Templar's worldwide. It is due to the infectious virus called the COVID-19 resulting

in a Pandemic causing the Governor of Pennsylvania to mandate the social distancing policy emphatically supported by our Grand Master and the Prince Hall family.

NECROLOGY

With heartfelt sympathy, we all mourn the loss of all Sir Knights where so ever disbursed around the globe. In our mist, 2019-2020 were PMEGC Joseph Jackson Gilbert L. Brandon #15, P.E.C Charles Aaron Union # 1, P.E.C Curtis Stewart Union #1, P.E.C Joseph Coaxum Union #1. Let us take a moment of silence remembering those who have gone Home to be with our Lord and Savior; for their Swords are ceased forever on this side of the grave. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow them all the days of their life and they will dwell in the House of the Lord forever!!!

Death is not the end; death can never be the end. Death is the road we take while in Life. Life is a traveler searching for success, The Soul is the Guide we find in Life! Because we could not stop for Death, He kindly will stop for us. See you on the other side my friend - Emily Dickinson

STATE OF THE NATION

This is an election year for the United States of America in November 2020. I am encouraging citizens and all our Sir Knights and Sister Cyrene's to Get Out and Vote and complete their 2020 Census form. The Census is critical in making a change for all our communities.

Much of the country has been quarantined over the last five months. The daily routines of citizens have been brought to a near standstill by a global pandemic. Because of COVID-19 virus, our state of existence has changed drastically, "the new norm" is not normal at all. The required method of communication includes social distancing, teleconferencing, video conferencing (ZOOM or Web ex), and the wearing of face masks and protective equipment. Race discrimination is the cry of the day, The theme "BLACK LIVES MATTER" painted on 16th Street near 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington DC in 35 feet yellow letters by the Honorable Mayor Muriel Browser, 8 minutes 46 seconds video of a white police officer with his knee on the neck of George Floyd, a Black man, where he exclaims "I can't breathe", created protesting in the streets globally, looting has closed the few retail stores and restaurants that were still open during the pandemic. Conversations about how to diminish discrimination is being heard globally in social media, television, and radio, police brutality, discrimination and racism has to cease! We pray for the Nation and we know Prayer changes things! To God Be the Glory!

STATE OF THE UNITED GRAND COMMANDERY

GOD, I thank you for this day! It was just 365 days ago I blessed to be elected as your Most Eminent Grand Commander for the State of Pennsylvania. Truly it has been an honor and privilege to serve our Sir Knights. Congratulations to the incredible elected officers and appointed officers of 2019-2020. This year would have not been successful without your efforts and support! Because of your commitment, we were able to achieve several impactful outcomes for our Commandery.

With your support the United Grand Commandery hosted a well-attended Christmas Toast (12/25/2019) Congratulations P.G.E.C. Leonard A. Heard. A Mass Dubbing was held on Saturday Feb. 29, 2020 with the results of 30 dubbed Sir Knights. Thank you to State Grand Lecturer Sir Lee Robinson for his leadership as well as all the Divisional Lecturers.

Charity

The collection of toiletries for the male shelters under the direction of Eminent Grand Junior Warden Demetrius Hellams Sr. truly made a difference to men in need. Donations are still coming in. Thanks for your support.

EASTERN DIVISIONAL COUNCIL

Special acknowledgement to the officers for their regular participations and excellent attendance to our Eastern Divisional Council (EDC) School for instructions & information. President Marc Spearman and the School Officers, I thank you for continuous directions that you render to our Sir Knights. The School remains well attended and inspirational. What a great fellowship for our members.

PMEGC, your mentorship and wisdom has guided me throughout the year, I remain grateful for your direction!

PEGC's, I encourage you to continue working tirelessly within your Commandery and with all Sir Knights.

Sir Knights, my enthusiasm and devotion to serve our members remains elevated! "No Man is an Island" working together, loving one another and helping each other is our claim, for United We Stand! All for One!

James M. Thornton/James Sheppard, Jr. Educational Awards

Chairman E.G. Warder Otis Guinyard, Thanks for all your hard work helping to raise funds and collecting of donations to help High School Students advance their education. Helping deserving students with educational book stipends was one of my objectives. Again, thanks for completing this goal. **Special Thanks to all our Commanderies who supported this effort.**

The Most Royal Grand Court of Cyrene

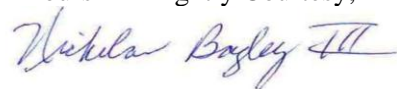
MRGC Cheryl D. Priest, Officers and members of the Most Royal Grand Court of Cyrene, MRGCE Ronald Morris, DGCE Allen Doman, DGCE Herman Smith Thanks for your support in the Most Royal Grand Court of Cyrene's activities and meetings working together for one common goal communication is the key. Special Thanks to the Advisors Albertus (Rick) Shaw and LeRoy C. Patience Jr. for their tremendous efforts and support. Job Well Done!

Visitations

This office made visitations or sent a representative to Prince Hall Festive Days; subordinate Commandery's and subordinate Royal Cyrene Courts activities from August 2019 – March 2020. Thank you, United Grand Commandery Officers, for your representation.

Recommendations

Yours in Knightly Courtesy,



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