

Raleigh York Rite Bodies

2014 Spring Newsletter

From the desk of the Secretary/Recorder:

It seems like only yesterday that we were celebrating Christmas and New Year's. Now, Daylight Savings Time has arrived, spring has sprung, and we are ready to turn another sheet on the calendar. The Raleigh York Rite Bodies have been busy. Our Ambassadors have been visiting the area lodges to promote the York Rite and encourage Masons to continue their journey in search of further light in Masonry by becoming members of the York Rite. Petitions are available online at our website; raleigh.yorkrite.org or from me or any of our Ambassadors. Just ask. Our Chapter and Council Degrees will be conferred on Saturday, May 10 followed by the Commandery Orders on Saturday, June 7. Last year we had 12 candidates and our goal this year is for more. Just think what we could do if each of us just got one new companion into our Chapter, Council, and Commandery.

Eight of our members attended the Grand York Rite Meetings in Asheville on March 15-18. Companion John W. Davis III was elected and installed as Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in North Carolina. Our Presiding Grand Officers are already at work to make this a great year for the York Rite in North Carolina. They have a plan and together we can be successful. Companion Will Chriscoe was elected as Grand Master of the 1st Veil in the Grand Chapter and Sir Knight Ludwik Wodka was elected as Grand Warder in the Grand Commandery. Each begins their journey that will hopefully culminate in being Grand High Priest and Grand Commander respectively. Congratulations to each of them. Sir Knight Chriscoe was also the recipient of the Knight Templar Cross of Honor which was presented by the Grand Commander and the Mid-Atlantic Department Commander. Most Excellent Robert A. Schafer, PGHP, continues as Grand Secretary/Recorder.

Dues for 2014 continue to come in. If your card is not for 2014, please send your check to: Raleigh York Rite Bodies, PO Box 17212, Raleigh, NC 27619. As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or comments, just call or email; andy.adams62@gmail.com or 919-801-7654.

From the High Priest

In spite of this cold, wet and longer than usual winter, the Chapter meetings of the Raleigh York Rite Bodies have been well attended by members and visitors. Thanks due to our Illustrious Grand Master, Johnny Davis who prepares a hearty meal before each meeting at 6:30pm. Thanks go out to Companion Ludwik Wodka, recently elected to the Grand Commandery line for our state, who gladly gives instructions and protocol to those who need reminding. This is open to members and visitors alike. We are fortunate as well to have our current Chapter King, Companion Will Chriscoe, recently elected to serve in the state Grand Chapter as Grand Master of the First Veil. The Raleigh Chapter was well represented at our recent Grand York Rite meeting in Asheville. It is obvious that our Raleigh Chapter #10, Royal Arch Masons is strong in local, council and state positions. We are continuing to build on the leadership and wisdom of those who have proudly served before us.

Please remember to sign up and support the Walk for Autism, April 26th. Raleigh Chapter #10 made its inaugural showing last year and we had a great time representing the Raleigh York Rite Bodies and fellowship with others in this worthwhile cause. General Grand Chapter was pleased with our supporting this event as it supports RARA as well.

This coming April 4th will be the last opening of the Chapter in full form and the Council will begin its quarter of opening and closing in form starting in May. Lastly, our success is no doubt due to the dedication and hard work of our secretary/recorder, Companion Andy Adams, PGHP. Thank you Companion for all that you do.
Craig Horton, High Priest

From the Illustrious Master

As spring approaches and we look to warmer weather, we also look to the time of the year when the Council will open the Raleigh Body meetings. As the Chapter has done in its turn, the Council will open in form from May to August.

We are very fortunate in Enoch Council #5 to have the current Grand Illustrious Master of Royal and Select Masters of the State of North Carolina M.I. Johnny Davis as a member. Not only does Johnny provide a fine meal for us each meeting but he also serves all the Raleigh York Bodies as Treasurer. We also have the current Grand Tyler R.I. Dave Rowson and the current Grand Chaplin R.I. Craig Horton as members of our Council. We are very fortunate to have these companions as well as PGIM Luigi Ammons in our midst.

We always enjoy seeing you at our meetings and it is with great joy I look forward to the degree conferral on May 10 and June 6. If you know of anyone who would be interested in joining our fraternity within a fraternity, please get them a petition and extend our welcome. *Will Chriscoe, Illustrious Master*

From the Eminent Commander

The Commandery is off to a good year. We are recruiting members for the upcoming Commandery Orders which will be on June 7th. If you are available to assist, we'd love to have you participate. In mid-March, we participated in the Grand York Rite Meeting in Asheville. We were recognized as a body with the Frederick G. Speidel Award which is given to the most improved Commandery. Many Sir Knights have helped and led along the way that has led to our recognition especially Sir Knights Andy Adams, Will Chriscoe, Johnny Davis, Donald Street, and Ludwik Wodka. Thank you all for your work and support of Templary. Our goal continues to be the Wilbert F. Huntley Award as the top Commandery in the State.

We also had a few individuals recognized for their individual contributions as well. Sir Knight Ludwik Wodka was elected Grand Warder and is now in the Grand Commandery Line and should one day become Grand Commander. Sir Knight Andy Adams received the Grand Commandery Merit Award and Sir Knight Will Chriscoe was recognized with the Knight Templar Cross of Honor. Congratulations to all these Sir Knights. Additionally, do not forget our Monthly Stated Communication which is the 1st Friday of each month. We have a great dinner at 6:30pm followed by the meeting at 7:30pm. Finally, we became members of the Commandery to receive more light in Masonry. As Knights, it is our duty to bring that same light to others through our thoughts, words, and actions. *Will Highsmith, Commander*

Dates to Remember

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| April 4 | Stated Meeting – Dinner at 6:30, Meeting at 7:30 |
| April 12 | Area Meeting and School of Instruction in Greensboro – 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM |
| May 2 | Stated Meeting – Dinner at 6:30, Meeting at 7:30 |
| May 10 | Chapter and Council Degree conferral – 8:00 AM |
| June 6 | Stated Meeting |
| June 7 | Conferral of Commandery Orders – 8:00 AM |
| July 11 | Stated Meeting – Meeting date changed according to by-laws due to Holiday |
| July 13-15 | Summer Assembly in Maggie Valley |
| August 1 | Stated Meeting – Dinner at 6:30, Meeting & Super Excellent Master Degree at 7:30 |