

PIEDMONT COMMANDERY NO. 26
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

GENERAL ORDER NO.3- (October 2005)

Sir Knights:

It is with a sense of regret that I inform you that the stated conclave of Piedmont Commandery No. 26 scheduled for September 22, 2005 could not be opened due to the lack of a sufficient number of Sir Knights. Your Commander and six (6) Sir Knights who were present enjoyed an excellent meal of meat loaf, mashed potatoes w/gravy, peas and peach cobbler prepared by Destiny Court No. 14, Order of the Amaranth. After the meal, we (seven Sir Knights) sat together and had general discussions on a variety of subjects. One of the discussions being "What to do to increase attendance at our stated conclaves?" Do you have any suggestions?? Please call me at 703-791-5800 or email me at c-jmcnoldy@erols.com.

The next stated conclave is scheduled for October 27, 2005 at the Manassas Masonic Temple. Dinner will be at 6:30 PM. Conclave opening will be at 7:30 PM. I would appreciate seeing as many of you as your schedule will permit. While I would like to see every sir knight in uniform, I know this is not possible since some of you do not yet have complete uniforms. However, your attendance is more important to me than whether or not you have a uniform!! Wear a dark civilian suit and attend the stated conclaves. WE NEED YOU !! The program for this conclave will be a short talk by Sir Knight Edwin R. Carpenter, Jr., Right Eminent Department Commander of the Northeast Department of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the USA. His presentation will be followed by a short rehearsal for the official visit of the District Deputy Grand Commander.

The District Deputy Grand Commander, Sir Knight Paul S. Newhall, will make his official visit to Piedmont Commandery No. 26 at 7:30 PM on November 10, 2005. A dinner will be held at 6:30 PM prior to the opening of the conclave. Please note the change of date to November 10 due to Thanksgiving being on the 24th (our regular meeting date).

Piedmont Commandery's Service for Christmas Observance is scheduled for the stated conclave on December 22, 2005. Please mark your calendars so you may be present for this most important observance.

Our Recorder has asked me to remind everyone to check their Dues Card and if it does not say 2005 on it, then you are in arrears for this year and every year since the date that is on your card.

Two years ago, we raised our dues so that there would be no cost to the Sir Knights for the dinners provided previous to our meetings. Therefore, each member has already paid or will pay each year for 12 outstanding meals, now being prepared by either the ladies of Destiny Court No. 14, Order of the Amaranth or Wimodausis Chapter No. 106, Order of the Eastern Star.

If for no other reason, come out for your "free dinner" each month and let us talk you into staying for the meeting. We might succeed and you might walk away wondering why you stayed away so long. Remember, the only real secret of Masonry is that to get anything out of it, you need to keep coming back. So, come on back, eat heartily with your fellow Fraters and learn more about our great craft.

KNIGHT TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION:

The 38th Annual Voluntary Campaign will start on October 1, 2005 and end on April 30, 2006. Can you imagine not being able to see? As a Knight Templar, it is our obligation, privilege and duty to help as many persons as possible to avoid that debilitating experience. The Knights Templar Eye Foundation provides the treatment necessary to save the sight of many who would otherwise end up in complete darkness. The latest number of cases approved and funded by the KTEF is over 78,400. Many of these were residents of our Commonwealth.

Many thanks to our stalwart SK Don McAndrews for the many hours he devoted to securing the approvals necessary for one of our applicants, Alfredo Foz, Jr., to have eye surgery under the KTEF program. Mr. Foz had successful surgery on one eye and when that is healed he will have the operation on the second eye. Again, it would not have happened without the devotion of SK Don.

Sir Knights: If you wish to make a contribution to this wonderful philanthropy, make your checks payable to the **Knights Templar Eye Foundation** and send them to our Recorder, SK James B. Bartley, 621 Third Street, Herndon, Virginia 20170-3145.

In His Name

Charles E. McNoldy