

**APRIL 2009 GENERAL ORDERS,
ARLINGTON COMMANDERY # 29**

Thank you Sir Knights for the privilege of being your Commander. It is my intent to provide you with the best leadership within my capabilities. We have a strong line and an opportunity to move ahead and continue the great progress we have made these past several years. There are some challenges facing us, but our Commandery has the ability to fulfill our commitments and to move forward in a proactive mode.

Our Stated Conclave for Friday, 3 April 2009 will be Ladies' Night. The Guest Speaker will be SK Jay Patterson, speaking on his experiences as a White House Network Cameraman. This will be an excellent opportunity to hear the role he plays in the day to day activities that transpire in an active environment of a serious and sometimes jovial atmosphere.

Take this opportunity to have a special evening out with your Lady. Dinner will be "Prime Rib"... Don't miss out on this "fun" evening. It is important to recognize our Ladies for the support role they provide all of us on a daily basis. They too need a night out. All donations will be accepted to support our Knight Templar Eye Foundation.

The financial posture of our Commandery is not in dire straits, but we are concerned and need to meet our budget requirements. The approved balanced budget is something we have not had for several years and is indeed a challenge.

With the nature of the Grand Encampment assessments and the status of our own Grand Commandery, the raised fees and assessments need to be addressed without raising our own dues or levying an assessment on each member of our Commandery.

We have just initiated a "raffle" that will greatly assist us in our commitment to the "Knights Templar Eye Foundation", the "Baldwin-Brown Fund" and "Holy Land Fund". Raffle Tickets are \$5.00 each or five (5) for \$20.00 and are available from any of our Commandery Officers. The prizes include a 32" HD Flat Screen TV, Digital Camcorder, and a GPS Navigation System Positioning Device. Your support of this activity would be greatly appreciated. Raffle Ticket

sales are available to all friends, acquaintances, neighbors and relatives throughout our community.

Our planned "Fraternal Visit Program" will be initiated with our first visit to "Old Dominion Commandery # 11. This is scheduled for Wednesday, 22 April 2009 at 7:30 PM at their Kena Shrine Temple location, and will provide us the opportunity to see our Sir Knights in their new quarters. This will also reflect on the cohesiveness and cooperation we have within our Chivalric District # 3.

Visitations to other District Commanderies, and to our Youth Organizations, will be announced in subsequent issues of our Commandery General Orders.

Several of our Sir Knights who are unable to attend our Monthly Conclaves as a result of their change in life style, and no longer intend to wear their Knight Templar uniforms, may want to consider selling or donating them to our Armory. Our new members need a jump start when it comes to the purchase of a new uniform, sword and chapeaux. The costs are prohibitive and any help they can receive from donations will really assist them and your Commandery to become a fully uniformed unit.

The "Grand Commandery Committee on Leadership and Education" is charged with developing programs to foster education. To revitalize and reinvigorate Templar Masonry the "Leadership Correspondence Course" is an excellent course for all Sir Knights to pursue this opportunity. I have completed the course and recommend that you avail yourselves on this personal challenge. Registration Forms and Instructions are available to you from our Recorder.

With all your support I am looking forward to a "fun year"

In His Name

Ralph T. Woodrow
Commander