



Knightly News

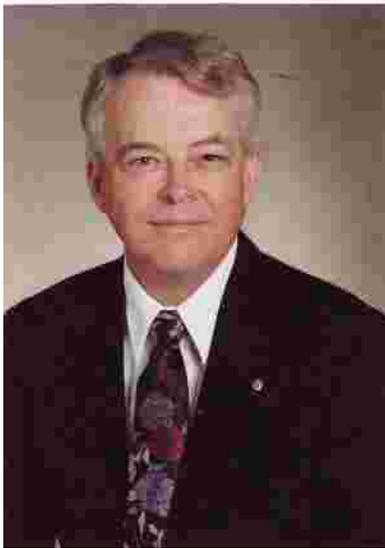
The Grand Council of Knight Masons of the United States of America
PMB 234, 4094 Majestic Lane, Fairfax Virginia, USA 22033-2104

Spring 2008
Volume 12 Number 1

Headlines

- Grand Officers elected and appointed
- Councils Must File IRS Form 990n epostcard
- Ireland installs a new Great Chief
- Charters Issued to three councils

From the Great Chief



ME Dr. Donald B. Street
Great Chief

Sir Knights and Cousins – Greetings. It is with heartfelt sincerity that I thank the membership of Knight Masons of the United States in electing me to the office of Great Chief. The “Green Degrees,” which are the most ancient of Masonic degrees, are the basis for our existence as a Grand Council. It is to our ancient brethren of the “Emerald Isle” we owe our existence. It is the duty of this generation of Knight Masons to cultivate and preserve these beautiful degrees for the generations yet to come. As a national organization we are in an excellent condition. Our member-

ship experienced a slight drop last year for the first time in our history. We are not to be daunted by this as new councils are being planned in Tennessee, Florida and Wyoming.

“It is the duty of this generation of Knight Masons to cultivate and preserve these beautiful degrees”

To fill the position of Grand Sentinel I have appointed D. Allen Surratt of St. Patrick’s in America Council No.1. Sir Knight Surratt is well known in national Masonic circles and is heavily engaged in many aspects of the “Washington meetings.” Sir Knight Chris Jessen, Ph.D. will continue as Grand Musician. Copious thanks go to Cousin Chris for his musical contributions to our many organizations. To fill the position of Ex. Chief of Great Chief’s Council 0, I have appointed Sir Knight Blaine Simons of Utah.

We are looking forward to an exciting and prosperous year for Knight Masonry in the United States. I extend my best wishes to all.

Sincerely and fraternally,
Donald B. Street
Most Excellent Great Chief

Scribes Take Note

File IRS Form 990N

Under new regulations all non-profit organizations are required to file a Form 990 each year. For small groups like the Knight Masons Councils that normally have less than \$25,000 income each year, this may be accomplished by filing Form 990N epostcard on the internet. The IRS has posted this form at

<http://epostcard.form990.org/>

ALL COUNCILS MUST FILE THIS FORM BY INTERNET BY MAY 15.

It cannot be filed by US Mail. The IRS recommends going to a public library if you do not have email.

If you have already filed, please let The Grand Scribe know. If you have not, please get it done; filing is not optional. We could lose our tax exempt status if you fail to file. It is not difficult or time consuming. When the Grand Scribe submitted the forms for Great Chief’s Council 0, Virginia Council 12, and the Grand Council, it took 45 minutes during which time a detailed procedure was written and checked. This procedure has been posted in the Files folder of the KmCouncils Yahoo Group and the Documents folder at briefcase.yahoo.com/gc_km_usa.

New Fees in Effect

The following fees became effective this year:

Knighting	\$25.00 (includes \$10 fee)
Restoration	\$10.00
Dual Affiliation	\$10.00
Transfer Affiliation	No fee
Per Capita	None

Charters Granted

During the Annual Meeting Charters were granted to Jack L. Sharp Council No. 91 in Fayetteville, Arkansas, James M. Willson Council No. 92 in Stamford, Texas and Donegal Council No. 94 in Marietta, Ohio. Unfortunately, no picture is available of the presentation of the charter to Willson Council.

Jack L. Sharp Council 91



Great Chief congratulates Ex. Lee Stringfellow and members of Jack L. Sharp Council No. 91 as they receive their Charter.

Donegal Council No 94 Instituted and Chartered

Four Knight Masons met in June 2007 to discuss the need for a Council in Southeast Ohio. Kilwinning Council No. 62 under the Grand Council (Ireland), is located in Zanesville, approximately 100 miles from most interested Brethren. The Marietta Temple Board had agreed to host a new Council. Marietta is the home of the famous American Union Lodge No. 1, a military travelling lodge originally chartered in 1776 in Massachusetts.

Dispensation was obtained, officers were selected and letters were sent to prospective members. Great Chief G. Kent Elkins issued a dispensation for C. Michael Watson - Grand Junior Warden to be the Instituting Officer. Everything was in place by Nov. 24; but no date was available for all concerned until January 19th, when Donegal Council No. 94 UD was Instituted and Officers were installed. C. Michael Watson, Douglas Jordan, and several PEC's accomplished the Institution and installed Officers in a very



Sir Kts James B. Malcolm, Daniel C. Arnold, and C. Brooks Harper with M.E. G. Kent Elkins after the presentation of the Charter for Donegal Council No. 94

fine manner. Twelve new Knight Masons were obligated and twelve members of Kilwinning Council No. 62 were affiliated - making a total membership of twenty-four. While this was going on, the ladies took a tour of the building. All then

joined to enjoy an excellent dinner served by the Marietta Commandery. Because of the large number of charter members and the experience present in the council, the Grand Council granted a charter during the Annual Meeting.

Grand Scribe's Comments



M.E. Mervyn Morrison, R.E. Michael Ward, M.E. Bernard V.A. Woods, M.E. G. Kent Elkins, and M.W. George Dunlop at the reception in the Grand Master's office

When I took office as Grand Scribe the first communication to arrive on my desk was a letter from the Grand Council in Dublin that had been unanswered since the death of my predecessor in October. That was my first encounter with Bernard V.A. Woods, my counterpart Grand Scribe.

From that beginning has grown a friendship that I have greatly enjoyed. I responded to the letter and in his return letter he included a note that his daughter lived in Centreville, Virginia and was that near me? It was in fact only five miles from my house. Bernard and his wife, Anita, visited the USA in March of 1998 to visit his daughter and son-in-law and Nancy and I took him on a tour of some of the famous spots in Northern Virginia. He also visited the Spring Meeting of Virginia Council 12 which was held on March 17 in the beautiful and historic lodge room of Winchester Hiram Lodge No. 2. The work was conferred on four candidates and Bernard and our Great Chief, M.E. Thurman Pace, were made honorary members. Incidentally, two of the four candidates have since served as Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, and a third was a

Past Grand Master of W.V. M.E. Thurman Pace, during his visit to Ireland in June 1988, made R.E. Woods a Past Grand Senior Knight of the Grand Council in the USA.

In Ireland the advancing line ends at the office of Grand Senior Knight. The Great Chief and Deputy Great Chief are elected each year, but usually continue in office for a number of years. Last year M.E. Great Chief Mervyn Morrison announced his retirement, and Bernard V.A. Woods was elected to succeed him. He set his installation for January 12 and invited the Great Chief, Kent Elkins, his lady Linda, and me and my lady, Nancy, to Dublin to attend his installation festivities. The hospitality extended was indeed most gracious and deeply appreciated. This included transportation, convenient housing, two dinners hosted by M.E. Woods and a celebratory banquet following the installation.

During the installation, M.E. Elkins presented M.E. Woods with the certificate and Grand Star of a Past Great Chief of the Grand Council in the USA. In return, M.E. Woods presented M.E. Elkins with the certificate and

jewel of a Past Grand Senior Knight. (He also presented me with a jewel, I having previously received the certificate.) At the reception before the banquet we met several of the leaders of Masonry in Ireland including The Venerable R. Clayton Stevenson, M.P. Sovereign Grand Commander, M.W. Roger Dunlop, Grand Master, and R.E. Michael Ward, Grand King-elect of the Supreme Grand R.A. Chapter. In attendance from the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland were M.E. Companions J.A. Frazier, Depute First Grand Principal and Grahame Smith, the Grand Scribe E.

The ladies, meanwhile, were given a tour of Wicklow, shopping at Powerscourt (a restored manor house) and dinner at a hotel which had served originally as the Masonic Home for Girls in Ireland. Even the weather cooperated, with the expected Dublin rain not interfering with the festivities.

All in all, it was a very special time, and one that will be remembered with pleasure for a long time to come. It was a great expression of fraternal friendship and hospitality.

Annual Meeting Notes

The Grand Council of Knight Masons in the USA met in the Magnolia Room of the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center at 8:30 a.m. on February 9, 2008 with all officers in their places.

Charters were granted to three councils and the dispensation for Green Degrees Council No. 93 was continued until the next Annual Meeting.

Amended Article XIX of the Statutes was amended to read:

As of December 31st of each year, the Scribe of each Council shall execute, in duplicate, an Annual Return, on forms supplied for that purpose by the Grand Scribe. The duplicate will, if correct, be returned to the Scribe for his record. A penalty equal to fifty (50) cents per member or \$50.00, whichever is greater, will be assessed on any Annual Return that is received after the close of the Annual Meeting following the year covered by the Return.

This change applies for any reports that were not received prior to the Meeting

The honorary title of Past Grand Senior Knight was conferred on Sir Knights Paul S. Newhall and Sheldon Arpad for the year 2006 and Emory J.

“Smokey” Ferguson and Chris M. Jessen for the year 2007. An appropriate jewel and certificate were presented to each recipient.

Donations of \$500 to DeMolay International and \$2000 to the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria were approved.

The officers for the year 2008-2009 were elected and installed.

Grand Officers –2008

- Donald B. Street Great Chief
Dennis N. Zier ... Deputy Great Chief)
Edward P. Fagan, Jr.. Grand Sr Knight
Kevin B. SampleGrand Jr Knight
Douglas L. JordanGrand Scribe
Charles W. Wagner .. Grand Treasurer
Edwin R. Carpenter ... Grand Trs. Em.
C. Michael Watson...Grand Sr Warden
Kenneth B. Fischer ...Grand Jr Warden
David L. Hargett, Jr.... Grand Dir of C.
Matthew D. DupeeGrand Priest
Andre E. Lovas..... Grand Steward
D. Allen SurrattGrand Sentinel
Chris M. JessenGrand Musician
Blaine H. SimonsExcellent Chief

Great Chief’s Notes

At the request of M.E. G. Kent Elkins, Ex. Kenneth D. Chandler 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 9, 2008. Applications were accepted from eight candidates who were then obligated and instructed. Our new members are:

- From Hawaii – Dexter C. Carrasco, and Monty J. Glover
From Utah – M.W. Grand Master Glenn A. Cook, and Reed Fanning
From Oregon – Jerold R. Cochran
From Idaho – R.E. Grand Commander David A. Grindle
From Ontario – Price D. Selvaraj
From England – Richard L. Gan, Grand Scribe of the Grand Council of Mark Masons.

Our new members were welcomed by the Excellent Chief

The Past Excellent Chiefs of Great Chief’s Council were welcomed and given honors appropriate to their office. The work of the Council being completed, the Excellent Chief returned the Signet to the Great Chief who closed the Council in ample form and declared the Grand Council at labor. The Great Chief thanked Ex. Chandler for his service and presented him with a Past Chief’s certificate and jewel.

First Class Mail

Knighly News

The Grand Council of Knight Masons in the USA
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