

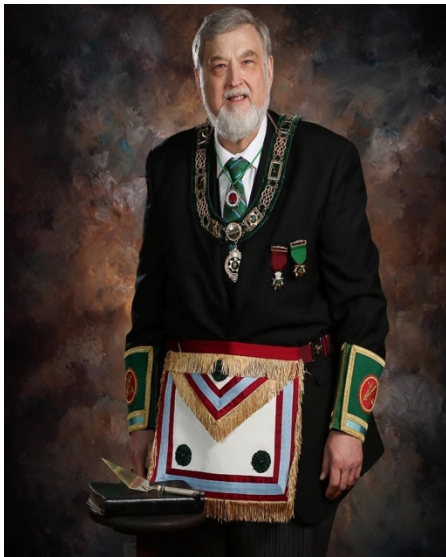


KNIGHTLY NEWS

Version 2024, Issue 3 December 2024 Jason F. Hicks, Editor

Grand Council of Knight Masons of the United States of America
65 Mirror Lake Road, Highlands, North Carolina 28741

From the Desk of the Great Chief



At this time of year, we should be thankful for the blessings that we have. We have all faced challenging times, and in some situations tragic events. Please keep those who are less fortunate than us in your prayers. The Grand Council has made a budget amendment and sent \$500 to Tennessee and North Carolina to assist and aid our brother Masons. While other states have experienced tragedies, the unprecedented storms decimated the mountainous areas of East Tennessee and Western North Carolina. It is hoped that direct aid to our brother Masons will be of some help.

Sir Knight and Cousin Jason Hicks has crafted a limited run coin with the profits aiding all affected states where the recent hurricanes hit. The coin will be a made available as soon as it is

struck. Only 100 of these coins will be made and once they're gone, they're gone. There is an article about this later in the newsletter.

This has been a most enjoyable year for me serving as your Great Chief and is one that I will never forget. I'm so grateful to my Masonic mentors and especially Past Great Chief Matthew Dupee who selected me a decade ago to start in the Grand Line. I'm thankful for the opportunity to participate in the growth of our Grand Council and to have implemented some things that will assist us in growing our membership while providing some guidance on how to improve our individual councils.

There is excitement in the air for Masonic bodies such as ours, and I encourage you to reach out to our worthy Companions of the Royal Arch and share with them the excitement found in this body.

As we are quickly approaching February's Masonic Week, I hope that you will find the time to come and enjoy the fellowship that occurs at the national meeting. You will meet Masons from around the world and begin to develop those friendships that will last a lifetime.

Many blessings to each of you and your family,
Robert Officer
Great Chief - Knight Masons of the USA



2024 Grand Council Officers

Robert G. Officer, Great Chief
Lloyd J. Leinbaugh, Deputy Great Chief
Russell E. Bridges, Grand Senior Knight
Bryce B. Hildreth, Grand Junior Knight
J. David Cashion, Grand Scribe
Joshua A. Bristol, Assistant Grand Scribe
Kevin B. Sample, Grand Treasurer
Jack M. Harper, II, Grand Senior Warden
David S.H. Lindez, Grand Junior Warden
Gerald G. Pugh, Grand Director of Ceremonies
Charles E. Maddox, Grand Priest
Joe R. Manning, Jr., Grand Steward
Corey F.L.G. Curtiss, Grand Sentinel
Chris M. Jessen, Grand Musician
David Dixon Goodwin, Excellent Chief, Great Chief's Council No. 0
Rory J. Byers, Grand Historian



COIN STRUCK TO HONOR GREAT CHIEF ROBERT OFFICER

A special coin has been struck to honor Great Chief Robert Officer and to the proceeds are being used to assist with disaster relief in the affected areas from hurricane Helene. There are only 100 of these coins that have been made. The coin is available for \$20 and if the coin has to be shipped that will be an additional charge of \$5.

To purchase a coin, reach out to Jason Hicks at jasonfhicks@gmail.com.

Editor's Note

Thank you for reading the third edition of this year's *Knightly News*. Councils are encouraged to submit news articles for inclusion in the next *Knightly News*. Submit materials to the Grand Scribe (cashionjd@yahoo.com) and the editor, Jason F. Hicks (jasonfhicks@gmail.com). When submitting pictures please include a list of names and the date of the event.

You can request to join the official Grand Council of Knight Masons, USA Facebook Group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/knightmasonsusa>) and visit our website at <http://www.knightmasons.org> for more information. Remember, you will need a password to access the non-public information and to obtain that password contact your Council Scribe for the password. Thank you for reading.

Fraternally,
Jason F. Hicks, Editor

MASONIC WEEK 2025!

Registration is now open for Masonic Week 2025. You can look at the schedule, register, and book your hotel at the link listed below.

<https://amdusa.org/wp/maso>

Grand Superintendents

Alabama, James McGee
Vulcan 22
Wiregrass 114
Mobile 119

Arkansas, Timothy J. (T.J.) Henwood
Arkansas 80
Jack L. Sharp 91
Harvey I. Mize 101

California (North), Mark H. Rose
Connemara 39
Clanna Ruid Ruide 58
Sheehan 127

California (South), Thomas E. Colgan
Brian Boru 38
Killamey 56
Hill of Tara 116
O'Brien 117

Chesapeake Bay, Mark Irwin
Maryland 9
Delaware 18
Universal 70
Templenoë 78

Florida (North), John I. Gray
Gateway 51
Semper Fi 95
Drexel P. Caldwell 108
Florida Caverns 110

Florida (South), James W. Hogg
Space Coast 32
Mystic Brotherhood 35
Solas O Rosslyn 84
Gold Coast 132

Georgia/South Carolina, James W. Tate
Samuel H.J. Womack 20
Carl F. Lester, Jr. 65
Joel W. Frampton 85
Crowned Martyrs 120

Great Plains, Lon W. Kvasager
Minnesota 35
North Dakota 90

Illinois (North), Earl Wys
St. Bridget 23
Earl of Torrell 24
Tracy o'Galway 40

Illinois (South), Bruce W. Rhinehart
Shamrock 43
Irish Sea 98

Indiana, Mike Doxsee
Indiana 15
Firinne 115
St. Columba 118
Prather 125

Iowa, Rick N. McCampbell
Kilpeck 64
Green Degrees 93

Kansas/Oklahoma, Robert G. Davis
Kansas 53
Joseph S. Lewis 66
Drogheda 68

Kentucky/West Virginia, Bufford Litteral
Kentucky 71
Highland 104
West Virginia 7
Tri-State 57

Louisiana/Mississippi,
William Keith Powell, Sr.
Tara 29
T. Olin Gore, Jr. 86
Ray Wesley Burgess 103
Sauvolle 126

Midwest, Leland Burlison

Trinity 36
Crown 'n' Cork 44
St Gobban Saer 130
Tully Cross 131

Missouri, William G. Snyder

Tipperary 62
Cell Aime 76
Charlemagne 79
Gates of Derry 82
Limerick 88

New England, Kaleb Robert Brown

Colonial 19
Pine Cone 31
Scenic 37
Roisin Dubh 111

New Jersey, William M. Krzewick III

North New Jersey 10
Southern New Jersey 11
Jersey Shore 107

New York/Connecticut, Conrad Johnson

Paumanok 4
Glencairn 14
Mohawk 28
Boudica 128
Cathair Salann 129

North Carolina (East), Will Chriscoe

Shamrock, Thistle and Rose 2
Harp, Cross and Eagle 3
SENClan 42
Tar River 123

North Carolina (West), W. Berry Rigdon

Saint Patrick's in America 1
Piedmont Celtic 99
Appalachian 121

Northwest Territory, Rabi K. Phifer

Clontarf 69
Knights of Tara 122

Ohio, Richard Lohnes

Irish 67
St. Clair 75
Donegal 94
Killian 106
St. Brendan 113
Mohican 124

Pennsylvania, Raymond G. Bagely

The Gateway to the West 5
Erin 6
Penn 13
Northeast 74
Erie 105

Rocky Mountains, Grover L. Sardeson

Kincora 8

Southwestern, Adam Hathaway

Enchantment 21
Realta Capar 112

Tennessee (East), Richard R. Petty, Jr.

Gaelic 60
William Benjamin Anderson 73
W.W. Cannon 96

Tennessee (West), Jared D. Karpel

Tralee 41
Ezra 89

Texas (Central), Jerry Kirby

Texas 45
Gen. Henry Bates Stoddard 87
Frank G. McDonald 97
Jewel P. Lightfoot

Texas (Northeast), Russell C. Brown

Rose of Sharon 49
Worth's Shamrock 54
Veritas 59

Texas (Southwest), Ralph Royal
Nat Peace 46
Anson Jones 47
Francis A. "Fritz" White 48
Wilbury Bethel Sirman 52

Texas (West), Jackie Matthews
Franklin 63
Libertas 83
James M. Wilson 92

Virginia, Pete Jensen
Virginia 12
King Carius 17
Emerald Isle 30
Fort Andrew Lewis 81
Rock of Cashel 100

Councils of Distinction

Great Chief Robert Officer is proud to announce the Council of Distinction program which builds on best practices. If your council uses this to guide for the year, you will have a successful council! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Application for Grand Council of Knight Masons Honor Council Award
 Reporting Period January 1 through December 31
(Application due to Grand Scribe no later than December 31 of the current year)
90 points minimum required for Council of Distinction Award
120 minimum points required for Honor Council Award



Council Name: _____ **No.:** _____ **Points Awarded**

1	In the past year, how many additional meetings of your Council (above the two (2) minimum required by code) were held? <i>(5 points for each additional meeting)</i>		
2	In the past year, did your Council host at least one event which included ladies? <i>(5 points if Yes)</i>		
3	In the past year, how many additional special meeting events were held such as Donnybrooks, Educational, Special Speakers, Dinner or special event recognizing special accomplishments <i>(i.e. recognizing 25/50 year members, or council anniversary)? (5 points for each event up to 4 events)</i>		
4	Does your Council have a mentorship program to explain what Knight Masonry is to new members? <i>(5 points if Yes)</i>		
5	Does your Council have a newsletter which is sent out at least twice a year? <i>(Meeting notifications do not count as a newsletter) (5 points if Yes)</i>		
6	In the past year, did your Council send the Grand Council <i>Knightly News</i> Newsletter to your membership? <i>(5 points if Yes)</i>		
7	In the past year, did your Council confer in full form: <i>(5 points for each degree)</i>		
	a. Knight of the Sword, Mandatory Item		
	b. Knight of the East, Mandatory Item		
	c. Knight of the East and West, Mandatory Item		
8	In the past year, did your Council have a Ritual School? <i>(5 points if Yes)</i>		
9	In the past year, what percentage of your total membership attended at least one (1) meeting? <i>(Select only one - register or sign in sheet should be used and kept to verify the percentage for reporting purposes)</i>		
	a. 50% or more <i>(5 points)</i>		
	b. 75% or more <i>(10 points)</i>		
	c. 90% or more <i>(15 points)</i>		
10	In the past year, did you notify your Grand Superintendent of all of your meetings? <i>(5 points if Yes)</i>		
11	Is the Council's Initiation Fee set high enough to make sure all new Sir Knights receive an Apron, Sash, Member Jewel and Ritual? <i>(5 points if Yes)</i>		
12	In the past year, were your Council's Financial Records audited/reviewed by a Committee for that purpose, recorded in the minutes, and approved by your Council? <i>(5 points if all three requirements are answered Yes, Mandatory Item)</i>		
13	Are there at least two signatories on all financial accounts of the Council? <i>(5 points if Yes, Mandatory Item)</i>		
14	In the past year, how many new members did you confer all three degrees on as reported on your Annual Return? <i>(5 points for each new member)</i>		

15	In the past year, how many of the five (5) Elected Officers of your Council attended your Council's Annual Meeting? (5 points for each officer):		
	a. Excellent Chief		
	b. Senor Knight		
	c. Junior Knight		
	d. Treasurer (if not combined with Scribe)		
	e. Scribe		
16	Was your current year's Annual Return submitted to the Grand Scribe by deadline. (5 points if Yes, <i>Mandatory Item</i>)		
17	In the past year, at all of your meetings, were you officers appropriately dressed for meetings? (Suits for Daytime Meetings and Tux for Nighttime Meetings) (5 points if Yes)		
18	In the past year, did your Council submit an article/picture for the <i>Knightly News</i> ? (5 points if Yes)		
19	In the past year, did your Council reward your Past Excellent Chief with the Past Excellent Chief's Jewel? (5 points if Yes)		
20	In the past year, did your Council award your 25 and 50 year members with a 25 or 50 year membership jewel? (5 points if Yes)		

Total Points from Council:

21	In the past year, did your Council contribute any money to any charity? If so, to whom and how much? (Up to 10 points at discretion of Great Chief or committee)		
	a. Charity:		
	b. How much?		
	c. Description:		
	Discretionary points given (line 21) by committee or Great Chief (max 10 points)		

Grand Total to be calculated after report is submitted:

Awarded: _____

Date Submitted: _____

Scribe Printed Name

Scribe Signature

Excellent Chief Printed Name

Excellent Chief Signature

Clear Form

Print

Save As

Submit