



# The Byzantium

United Grand Imperial Council - Red Cross of Constantine

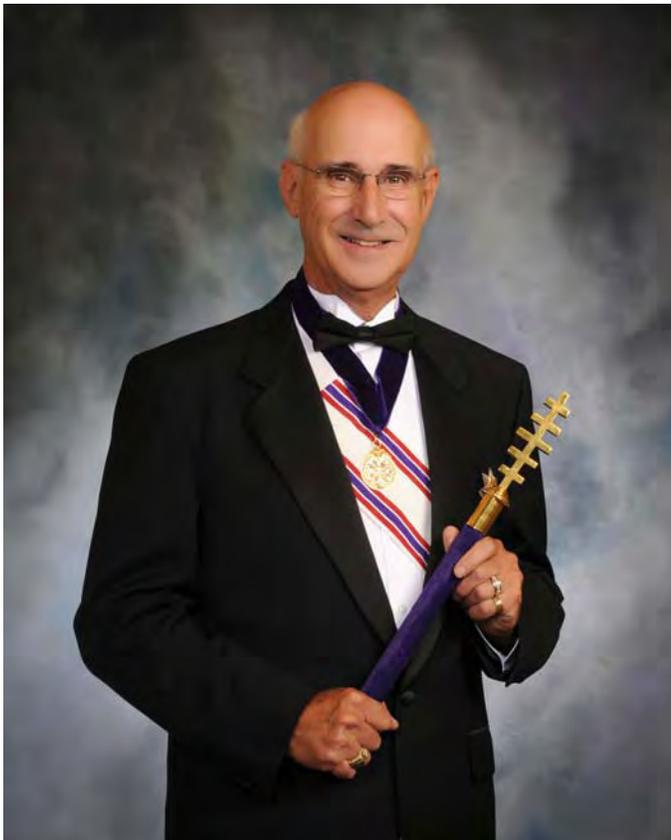


Volume XV

February 2009

Number 2

## The Grand Sovereign



**Knight Companion**  
**Charles L. Stuckey, KGC**

Here we are, halfway through the Constantinian year. It seems as though we just left San Diego, but know we will soon be gathering in Oklahoma City. This is our unique event, an opportunity to share a few days of our lives with Christian Masons and their ladies. No other organization in freemasonry offers a comparable event.

The Knight Companions in Oklahoma have been busy planning and preparing a great Annual Session for your enjoyment. We hope to greet many of you in Oklahoma City. Details and registration

information may be found in this Byzantium as well as at the Imperial Council web site, [www.redcrossconstantine.org](http://www.redcrossconstantine.org). Registration deadline is May 15, 2009.

Our Constantinian Law has evolved over the years. In some areas it is very definitive. However, many subjects are addressed in more than one section and allow different interpretations. Each of us has the right to submit resolutions to correct those errors we perceive need to be changed. Please take advantage of this opportunity and submit your resolutions so that they may be included in the "Annual Call."

I am greatly concerned about the continuing quality of our members. Since our membership is selected from the Royal Arch Masons living within the territorial limits of each conclave, we are limited in our choices. The falling numbers of Royal Arch Masons dilutes our base of possible proposals.

Since these concerns are shared by the members of the Long-Range Planning Committee, I am preparing a resolution to reduce the membership limits. This will leave those conclaves with limits of twenty-five unchanged; those from 26-50 will be reduced by 10 percent and those above fifty by 20 percent. This will be accomplished by allowing no Installations of new members until the total falls below the new limit. Please remember membership limits are "limits" not goals to achieve.

We have been discussing the recognition practices of this United Grand Imperial Council, and I have asked Tom Jackson, KGC, Chairman of the Fraternal Relations Committee to prepare legislation to address this problem. I have also instructed the Grand Recorder to invite the Grand Sovereign of Canada to our Annual Assembly in Oklahoma City.

The appointments and decisions I have made will be reported to you in my Allocution.

You now have the opportunity of skipping to the concluding paragraph or reading on as I share

some personal observations concerning the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine.

I was invited to join the Order at thirty-six years of age. My first questions were: "What is it? Why me?" My first question was soon answered; but I am not sure the second could have been at that time. Oh, what a trip it has been. Glenda and I attended our first Imperial Council Assembly in Fort Worth, Texas, in 1984 when Sam E. Hilburn, KGC presided. My good friend Joseph S. Lewis, KGC was installed as Grand Sovereign and I had the opportunity to travel with him and get to know many Masonic giants.

Knowing all of the Grand Sovereigns these past twenty-five years certainly humbled me when I was installed as your Grand Sovereign in San Diego. I sincerely thank you for the honor you conferred. I pray your trust has not been misplaced.

We all know master masons who are not members of the Royal Arch that we would like to have as Knights Companion in our local conclaves. We must return to our Symbolic Lodges and recruit the outstanding brothers we find there to become Royal Arch Masons. I strongly believe this must happen if we are to perpetuate the strength of our Order.

Finally, once again I thank you for the honor you have bestowed on me; recruit quality Royal Arch Masons; and join us in Oklahoma City June 11-13.



# An Invitation



To All Knights Companions:

On behalf of the Conclaves of Oklahoma, and our Intendant General, Knight Companion Bedford F. Rowland, Jr., I want to invite you to attend the 137<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly of our United Grand Imperial Council. It will be held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

**June 11-13, 2009.**

Our headquarters will be the Sheraton Oklahoma City Hotel, One North Broadway, three blocks from historic Bricktown. I think you will find the hotel an ideal location and a fine setting for our annual deliberations and for your comfort while thus engaged.

**The deadline for making reservations with the hotel is**

**May 15, 2009.**

Our registration package cost of \$160 (per person) covers meals and entertainment. Although we will be conducting the business of our United Grand Imperial Council, there will also be time for fraternal and social enjoyment.

A registration form will be found further on in this publication.

We hope you will plan to attend the 137<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly in Oklahoma City. You will be glad you did. Traditional Oklahoma hospitality will be available in great abundance.

Yours in Faith, Unity and Zeal,

Charles L. Stuckey, KGC  
Grand Sovereign

# The Byzantium

is the official publication of the United Grand Imperial Council of the Red Cross of Constantine and Appendant Orders for the United States of America, Mexico and the Philippines. It is published twice yearly, in the spring and in the autumn. Its purpose is to inform the members of the Order on the activities of the United Grand Imperial Council at its Annual Assembly held each June, and on the activities of the several regions, divisions and Conclaves.

Contribution of material, including text and photographs, is earnestly solicited from all corners of the Order. Send proposed material to the Editor: Frederick G. Kleyn at 11073 Plum Tree Ln, Spring Valley CA 91977-7047, telephone (619) 461-5724, Fax (619) 461-9371. E-mail: [fkleyn@cox.net](mailto:fkleyn@cox.net)

We would like to have articles on any unusual activities of a Conclave, and on all divisional and regional assemblies. Photographs are most welcome. They may be film or digital and should be captioned completely as to the identity of the subjects of the photograph, its date, location, the activity it represents, etc. If the photos are digital, please send the digital file by e-mail, or snail mail on a disk (floppy, or CD.)

Submissions should be in the hands of the editor not later than the end of February for the Spring issue, and not later than the end of August for the Fall issue. If you have something you'd like to have in an issue, and you are going to be close to the deadline (or a few days after the deadline) please contact the editor well prior to the deadline to arrange for a late submission. He will work to accommodate your needs, but the need for prompt delivery to the printer must take precedence over all other considerations.

Date	Division/Region	Site	Contact
July 17-18, 2009	Southwestern Regional	San Diego, CA	Frederick G. Kleyn
This schedule is updated each issue to show all known divisional/regional assemblies. If yours is not listed, and you would like it listed, please provide the information to the editor.			

*Your United Grand Imperial Council of the Red Cross of Constantine has an official web site:*

*[www.redcrossconstantine.org](http://www.redcrossconstantine.org)*

*It is kept up-to-date with a list of new officers after each of our Annual Sessions in June, the main portion of the current issue of The Byzantium and the registration form and information on the upcoming UGIC Annual Session and the city in which it will be held. If you have any suggestion for improving the site, please send it to the Editor of The Byzantium at [fkleyn@cox.net](mailto:fkleyn@cox.net) for consideration.*

# KC Dinwiddie Lampton, Jr. Was a Louisville Legend



Knight Companion Dinwiddie Lampton, Jr. of Louisville, Kentucky was a member and Past Sovereign of St. Barnabas Conclave. He passed away September 25, 2008 at the age of 94. He was born in Louisville in 1914. He graduated from Culver Military Academy and attended St. John's College in Annapolis, Maryland. His father, in the insurance business in Louisville, called him back from college in 1935 to work in the family company as Dinwiddie Sr. had suffered a heart attack and was very ill. Dinwiddie Jr. Spend the rest of his life in the insurance business – American Life & Accident founded by his father in 1906.

KC Dinwiddie Lampton, Jr. was initiated into Freemasonry as a young man and became a 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree Scottish Rite Mason. He also belonged to the Royal Order of Scotland, Kosair Shrine and the York Rite bodies. KC Lampton was installed a Knight Companion of St. Barnabas Conclave on December 13, 1940, which means at his passing he had served the Red Cross of Constantine 67 years, 9 months and 11 days. Service of this length in the Red Cross of Constantine is extremely rare, if not unique.

KC Lampton was an interesting and colorful character. In his television ads for his insurance company he looked like a man out of a Dickens novel. He was a horseman and enjoyed nothing more. He played polo very well in his earlier years. He put together a collection of over 300 vintage carriages which was one of the best in the land.

In 2000, he was described in the Telegraph of London as “a more perfect example of an eighteenth-century-style squire than any that could be found the length and breadth of England’s shires these days.”

KC Lampton served in the Military Order of World Wars, on the regional board of the Salvation Army and as a director of Citizens Fidelity Bank. At his funeral, a coaching horn sounded the note for his departure.



## George Hoddy Donates Home to Local College

Long-time Owosso, Michigan businessman George Hoddy is donating his home along with the four structures surrounding it to Baker College of Owosso.

The block was officially gifted to the college Dec. 30, 2008, by local industrialist and businessman who bought it in 1947. He subsequently obtained the other four houses on the block, bordered by Williams, Oliver, Pine and Shiawassee streets, as they became available.

Hoddy, who turns 104 on March 7<sup>th</sup>, had been trying for the past several years to sell the block of homes. “As a college, we are thankful for (Hoddy's) generosity and vision,” Baker College of Owosso President Peter Karsten said. “We look forward to putting up a monument that notifies everyone of the gift.” President Karsten said Hoddy approached the college in the fall with the idea of making the gift. He added he was very thankful for Hoddy's passion for the college.

Baker College is the largest independent college in Michigan with 35,000 students at 16 locations throughout the state. KC Hoddy was instrumental in bringing Baker College to Owosso in the early 1980s.

Hoddy said he views Baker College of Owosso as an important part of Owosso and essential to its future. “You can see that I am interested in Owosso even though I am a Buckeye,” Hoddy, who graduated from Ohio State University in 1926, said with a laugh. “If you don't grow, you are going to go backwards.”

Knight Companion George Hoddy is a member and Past Sovereign of St. Martin Conclave in Bay City, Michigan

## Sicilian Conclave Receives Charter



*From left to right. First row: Filippo Rosso, Franco Ferrera, Vincnezo Pulvirenti (with Charter,) Salvatore Gueli, and Sebastiano Basile. Second row: Ercole Triangale, Enzo De Dio, Ninni Scalia, Lino Bergamo, Vittorio Alesci and Salvo Capello.*

The above photograph shows the Knights Companions of Eboracum Conclave of Catania, Italy at the meeting at which they officially received their Charter from the United Grand Imperial Council, Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine and Appendant Orders for the United States of America, Mexico and The Philippines.

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### **Knight Companion William E. Yeager, Jr. Knight Grand Cross, Past Grand Sovereign Honored by Rotary and Scouting**

Our Grand Treasurer, KC William E. Yeager, Jr., KGC, of Warren, Pennsylvania was honored in October 2008 by Rotary International with the Cliff Dochterman Award for his life-long commitment to Scouting and Rotary. KC Bill is the first Rotarian from Warren County to receive this award.

The Cliff Dochterman award is given in recognition of Bill's many contributions to the furtherance of the ideal of "Service Above Self" and exemplifies the principles of the Four-Way Test in the community and in Rotary. It is presented by The International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians on behalf of all those who value the principles of Rotary and Scouting and all of whom are working together in strengthening the relationship between Rotary and Scouting/Guiding Associations throughout the world.

KC Yeager was cited on his award by Representative John E. Peterson of Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District, the largest Congressional District in Pennsylvania. Representative Peterson sent his

congratulations to KC Yeager, his wife Shirley, his family and friends for attaining this coveted award. In his remarks, Congressman Peterson said: "No doubt your father, who served as one of the first Scoutmasters of the Cornplanter Council, shared his love of scouting with you. Through his example you served the Council as an Executive Board member, Past Council President and continue serving as Member Emeritus on the Board today. I'm sure he would be very proud of your impressive accomplishments with both the Boy Scouts of America and Rotary International. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do for these fine organizations."

We, as Knights Companions of the Red Cross of Constantine know very well of Knight Companion Bill Yeager's long and outstanding service. He is a Past Sovereign of Orient Conclave of Bloomsberg, Pennsylvania; was Intendant General in Pennsylvania Central 1985-1991; served as Grand Sovereign of the United Grand Imperial Council in 1995 – 1996 and has served as Grand Treasurer since 2002. In all of these he has rendered outstanding service. We extend to Knight Companion Yeager, and his lovely Shirley, our sincerest congratulations on his recognition by Rotary and Scouting. It certainly is very well deserved and fitting in very respect.

# 136<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GRAND ASSEMBLY

## OKLAHOMA CITY – 2009

### VENUE INFORMATION

**Sheraton Oklahoma City Hotel** – Our hotel is three blocks from historic Bricktown and its Canal Water Taxi. It is also close to many of Oklahoma City's attractions. The hotel has 395 rooms. All rooms have individual climate control, telephone with message light, color TV, AM/FM alarm clock radio, cable movie channels, in-room pay movies, high-speed internet access, Play Station, coffee maker, iron and ironing board. There is a full business center, exercise room, outdoor pool, and full service day spa and gift shop. The Aria Grill located off the hotel lobby provides three meals. There is also a bar.

**Oklahoma City Area Attractions** – Oklahoma City has many attractions. One of the best known is the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum (this is included in your registration.) Others close to the hotel are: Myriad Gardens' Crystal Bridge; Oklahoma City Murrow Building National Memorial, Bricktown and the Canal District.

**Guthrie Scottish Rite Temple** – This magnificent building is one of the largest in the Southern Jurisdiction A&ASR. Each room is designed and furnished in a particular historical period. A tour of this Temple will leave the hotel at 11 a.m. Thursday, June 11. Lunch is included. The cost of this tour is \$30 per person, which is in addition to the general registration fee.

**Dress for Men and Women** – The Thursday and Friday tours will be casual. NO Ties or Jewels. The Thursday dinner will be coat and tie for men and street length dress for the ladies. The Saturday Night Banquet is formal with black tuxedo or white dinner jacket for men and long or cocktail dresses for the ladies. The Red Cross of Constantine Sash should be worn at the formal banquet Saturday night. The Red Cross of Constantine jewel should be worn at all functions at the hotel, not on the tours.

**Chair Degrees** – These degrees will be conferred Friday at 1 p.m. for any candidates wishing to participate. Conclave recorders are responsible for the regular fee offerings and reporting.

**Oklahoma City Airport** – Will Rogers' World Airport is about 6 miles from the hotel. We hope to have ground transportation for you. If not, both taxi and shuttle service is available. The hotel does not provide transportation.

*Please visit the Red Cross of Constantine web site at*

*[www.redcrossconstantine.org](http://www.redcrossconstantine.org)*

*for a computer friendly copy of this information with links to the locations, activities and services mentioned above, including links to the airport and ground transportation options.*

# UNITED GRAND IMPERIAL COUNCIL, RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE

137<sup>TH</sup> Annual Assembly

June 11 - 13, 2009

Sheraton Oklahoma City Hotel, One North Broadway

Oklahoma City, OK 73102

\$134 single, double; \$164 triple or \$194 quad occupancy, plus tax

Make room reservations with the hotel before May 5, 2009 and mention RCC to obtain this rate

405-235-2780 or 800-325-3535

<b>Hotel Reservation Deadline is May 15, 2009</b>
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**Registration fee - \$160 per person**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Lady's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Location of Conclave \_\_\_\_\_

Office \_\_\_\_\_ National office \_\_\_\_\_

National Office in Other Organization \_\_\_\_\_

I (we) will arrive on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date) (Airline) (Flight)

I (we) will depart on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date) (Airline) (Flight)

- | <b>Knight Companion</b> | <b>Lady</b>           |   |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/>   | <input type="radio"/> | Will attend the Thursday Evening Dinner Reception, June 11  |
| <input type="radio"/>   | <input type="radio"/> | Will attend the Men's Lunch Friday, June 12   |
| <input type="radio"/>   | <input type="radio"/> | Will attend the Lady's Lunch Friday, June 12  |
| <input type="radio"/>   | <input type="radio"/> | Will attend the Western Heritage & Cowboy Hall of Fame Tour & Dinner, Friday afternoon  |
| <input type="radio"/>   | <input type="radio"/> | Will attend the Men's and Lady's Lunch Saturday, June 13  |
| <input type="radio"/>   | <input type="radio"/> | Will attend the Grand Banquet Saturday, June 13 (Please indicate dinner choice below)   |
| <input type="radio"/>   | <input type="radio"/> | Pecan Crusted Breast of Chicken   |
| <input type="radio"/>   | <input type="radio"/> | Ribeye Steak _____  |
|                         |                       | If you have any special dietary requirements, please note them on the line above.   |
| <input type="radio"/>   | <input type="radio"/> | <b>Optional</b> - Tour of Guthrie A&ASR Building with lunch - Thursday afternoon - June 11 -<br><b>Cost</b> - \$30.00 per person additional |

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO 137<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ASSEMBLY**

and mail to:

L. Erik Stuckey

PO Box 278

Sand Springs, OK 74063-0278

E-MAIL FOR ANY QUESTIONS: [stuckeyc@fullnet.net](mailto:stuckeyc@fullnet.net)



# 137<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly - Oklahoma City

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

June 11, 2009	Thursday	8:00 a.m. – 6 p.m. 11:00 a.m. 12 noon – 3 p.m. 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.	Registration – Century Foyer Board Buses to Guthrie Lunch and tour of Guthrie A&ASR (optional) Hospitality Room Open – See Event Board Reception/Dinner – Cash Bar Century Ballroom Coat and tie with jewel, Ladies as appropriate
June 12, 2009	Friday	8:00 a.m. – 12 noon 8:00 a.m. – 12 noon 8:00 a.m.  9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 12 noon – 1:00 p.m. 12 noon – 2:00 p.m. 1:15 p.m. 3:00 p.m.  3:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. 8:30 p.m.	Grand Recorder's Office open Registration – Century Foyer Intendant Generals and Recorders Seminar (all KC's are welcome) 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Ballrooms Hospitality Room Open UGIC General Session 1 Men's lunch – 18th Century Ballroom Women's lunch – Plaza Ballroom Chair Degrees Load buses to Cowboy Hall of Fame Dress casual, walking shoes Tour Cowboy Hall of Fame Load buses to Harn Homestead Dinner and self tour Harn Homestead Load buses to hotel
June 13, 2009	Saturday	8:00 a.m. – 12 noon 8:00 a.m. – 10 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12 noon 1:00 p.m. – 5 p.m. 1:00 p.m. – 6 p.m. 6:00 p.m. – 7 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Grand Secretary's Office open Registration open UGIC General Session 2 Memorial Service Installation Joint Luncheon Pavilion East – Ground Floor Hospitality Room Open Free time – Self Tours of Oklahoma City Reception – Cash Bars Annual Banquet and Entertainment 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Ballrooms Dress – Men – Tux or White Coat, Jewel & Sash Dress – Women – Formal or Party Dress

# *Conclave By-Laws*

The several Conclaves which comprise our United Grand Imperial Council find a need, from time to time to revise their by-laws. Our Standing Regulation Number 10 (Book of Constitutions, Statutes and Regulations, Page 111) provides a set of basic By-Laws for a Conclave which are well written and cover most of what needs to be in a set of By-Laws. Most of the requests for changes to Conclave By-Laws received by the Committee on Chartered Conclaves address:

1. Changes to membership limits,
2. Changes to the procedures to be followed before extending an invitation to membership in the Conclave (Article IV), and
3. Changes to amounts of fees and dues (Article IX.)

Changes to membership limits **MUST** be approved by the United Grand Imperial Council, and as you have heard and read over the last several years, increases are not usually approved. Our membership base, which comprises Royal Arch Masons, is shrinking and we cannot take in more new members from a decreasing number of possibilities without diluting the quality of our Order unacceptably.

The procedures to be followed before extending an invitation to membership must be well thought out. A good deal of Masonic thinking in recent years has begun to move away from the single negative vote or objection as a bar to membership unless a good, Masonic reason is provided. Each Conclave is unique and each must think through how it wants to handle its selections for membership and then draft a By-Laws section which sets forth the procedures to be followed.

The amounts needed for fees and dues tend to change more rapidly than do most other things. Increasing prices for almost everything have been a fact of life for most of the last fifty years. Some periods have been more volatile than others. For these items, set forth in Article X of the By-Laws, the Committee on Chartered Conclaves has, for several years, suggested that exact amounts not be stated in the By-Laws, but that some sort of statement such as the following be used:

Section 1. The fee for installation in this Conclave shall be such amount as may, from time-to-time, be set by action at a regular assembly.

Section 2. There shall be no fee for affiliation for a Knight of the Order, but he must pay Annual Dues and Assessments for the current year.

Section 3. The joining fee for a dual member shall be \$25.00.

Section 4. The annual dues for this Conclave shall be such amount as may, from time-to-time, be set by action at a regular assembly. All dues shall be payable in advance on or before the first day of January of each year. Any member in arrears to the Conclave for more than one year's dues, or other financial obligation, and neglecting or refusing to pay for same after he has been duly notified, may be suspended from membership unless his arrearages shall have been paid or remitted by a majority vote of the Conclave.

Section 5. Assessments for banquets or special events may be levied on the membership of this Conclave whenever it is deemed necessary by action of the Conclave at a regular assembly. A member who, for a period of ninety days after having been duly notified, fails or neglects to pay any assessment, shall, at the end of said period, be dropped from the roll and cannot be reinstated except by unanimous vote of the Conclave. The annual assessment shall be set by vote of the members present at the regular Annual Assembly.

Section 6. Any member who has been suspended for non-payment of dues or assessments, may upon payment of same, be restored to membership by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regular assembly, providing a vacancy is legally available. A suspension from any other cause shall require unanimous vote for reinstatement.

If you have questions on the above, please contact the Chairman of the Committee on Chartered Conclaves.

# Suppliers of Red Cross of Constantine Jewels and Regalia

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Jerome E. Erickson  
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E-mail: [oscardmie@alltel.net](mailto:oscardmie@alltel.net)

## **Roulet Company** – Jewels, Sashes

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Toledo OH 43604-1229  
(419) 241-2988 Fax (419) 241-4344

E-mail: [sales@rouletcompany.com](mailto:sales@rouletcompany.com)  
Web Site: [www.rouletcompany.com](http://www.rouletcompany.com)

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Fax (416) 752-9986

E-mail: [kmacdonald@dominionregalia.com](mailto:kmacdonald@dominionregalia.com)  
Web Site: [www.dominionregalia.com](http://www.dominionregalia.com)

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(334) 277-1082

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Tel: (800) 758-5890 Fax: (800) 431-4329

E-mail: [masonic@pinworld.com](mailto:masonic@pinworld.com)  
Web Site: [www.pinworld.com/masonic](http://www.pinworld.com/masonic)

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**United Grand Imperial Council**

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