



The Byzantium



United Grand Imperial Council Red Cross of Constantine

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Issue 1

THE GRAND SOVEREIGN



DAVID LEE HARGETT, JR.

GRAND SOVEREIGN'S MESSAGE

Knight Companions,

It seems like yesterday I was installed as your Grand Sovereign. Five months have gone by and I would like to give you a recap of my activities.

I have attended: SRICF Meetings, Athelstan Assemblies, The York Rite Summer Assembly, York Rite

Sovereign College of North America meeting, a Scottish Rite Leadership Conference, the All Missouri Regional Assembly of the RCC, the 76th Annual Assembly of the Grand Imperial Conclave of Canada, the Biennial Session of the Supreme Council, Southern Jurisdiction AASR, the Triennial Session of the General Assembly of the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Council International, the 76th Annual Conclave of Convent General, KYCH, several Blue Lodge meetings, local York Rite meetings, Operatives, Spiritual Knights, Pilgrim Preceptors, study groups, AMD, Knight Masons, etc.

It has been a full summer as your Representative and I have been received with all the respect and courtesies for the office of Grand Sovereign.

Thank you so much for the honor you have seen fit to bestow on me. I am looking forward to the rest of my year.

GRAND SOVEREIGN'S BIOGRAPHY

David L. Hargett, Jr., was born June 23, 1939 in Monroe, North Carolina to Helen Williams and David Lee Hargett, Sr. He was educated in the Monroe City Schools and later at The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina, Wingate College, Central Piedmont Community College and North Carolina State University. He married Robin Thames and they have two sons, Joey Hargett and Jeff Hargett and five grandchildren. He is a member of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics - Awarded the Certificate of Merit. He also taught management classes in "Controlling Employee Turnover and Absenteeism," "Human Relations and Motivation," and "Job Instructor Training" for the Educational Foundation of the University of North Carolina.

Grand Sovereign Hargett is a life member and Past Master of Monroe Lodge No. 244 in Monroe, North Carolina. He received the Mason of the Year award in 1995. He is a founder and Charter Life Member of Truth Lodge No. 749. He has served as District Deputy Grand Master for the 39th District of North Carolina and was the Grand Lodge of North Carolina representative to the Masonic Service Association in 2000. He received the title Knight Commander of the Order of the Temple of Solomon from the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina for distinguished Masonic service and achievement. He also received the Joseph Montford Medal for Meritorious Service in 2000. He has served as a member of the Long Range Planning Committee of the Oxford Orphanage in North Carolina and also on the Committee on Masonic Ceremonies and Miscellaneous Publications. He received the twenty-five year Service Award also from the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. He was elected to the Grand Lodge Committee on Finance 2005-2007. He is the Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Vermont near the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. He is also a member of A. Douglas Smith, Jr. Lodge of Research No. 1949 in Virginia.

He delivered the W.B. Jack Ball Lecture to Albert Pike Lodge No 1169 in San Antonio Texas and was awarded the Sam Houston Medal by the Grand Lodge of Texas A.F.& A.M., the highest award given by The Grand Lodge of Texas.

In the Royal Arch Chapter, Grand Sovereign Hargett is life member and Past High Priest of Monroe Chapter No. 64, Royal Arch Masons. He is a Past President of the Order of High Priesthood in North Carolina and holds honorary membership in thirteen Chapters. He holds the Certificate of Appreciation

for Faithful Service and Exceptional Dedication to the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of North Carolina. He is PHP of Mount Ararat Research Chapter No. 3 and Grand Representative to the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Colorado. He has also received the Certificate of Commendation for Contribution and Dedication from the General Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons International.

Grand Sovereign Hargett is a life member and Illustrious Past Master of Solomon of the Silver Trowel Council No. 24, Royal and Select Masters and a member of Lenoir Council No. 38 and Roanoke Council No. 1 over which he also presided. He holds honorary membership in eleven other Councils. He has received the Honorable Order of Ish-Sodi from both North and South Carolina and the Simmons Jones Baker Medal for Outstanding Service to the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of North Carolina. He is an honorary life member of the Association of Southern Grand Masters of the Cryptic Rite and is Grand Representative to the to the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Vermont. He received the Meritorious Service Award from the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons International and the Cryptic Mason of the Year Award from the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons International in 1999. He was made an Honorary Member of Grafton Council of Anointed Kings No. 16 of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of England and Wales and its Districts and Councils Overseas on November 22, 2010.

In Commandery, he is a life member and Past Commander of Malta Commandery No. 19, Knights Templar and is a Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of North Carolina. He is a Life Sponsor and a member of the Grand Master's Club of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. He served as President of the Southern Breakfast Association 1992-1994; Chairman of the Finance and Budget Committee and as Chairman of the Leadership Development Committee of the Grand York Rite in North Carolina. He also served on the Committee on Charters and Dispensations of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar of the USA, 1992 – 1994 and on the Committee on Foreign Relations 2006 – 2012. He was Southeast Department Commander for the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the USA, 1994 – 1997. He holds the distinction of Knight Crusader of the Cross, as Knight Commander of the Temple, and as Knight Grand Cross of the Temple and Knight Commander of the East, 1994. He is an honorary member of 14 Commanderies. He has served as Preceptor of Sovereign Grand Preceptor's Chapter of the Sovereign Order of Knights Preceptor, is Past Sovereign Grand Preceptor of Grand Chapter and belongs to the Preceptories in Virginia and Maryland. He is the Grand Representative to the Grand Commanderies of Knights Templar of the State of Iowa and the State of Texas.

In the Knights of the York Cross of Honour, Grand Sovereign Hargett is Past Prior and current Registrar of Lily of the Valley Priory No. 1. He holds honorary membership in four priories. He is Past Grand Master General of Convent General, Knights of the York Cross of Honour, serves on the Committee on History and Publications and is Knight Grand Cross.

In the York Rite College, Grand Sovereign Hargett is a charter member and Past Governor of Western Carolina York Rite College No. 78. He has served as Deputy Grand Governor and Grand Governor in North Carolina. He received the Order of the Purple Cross in 1985 and was President of the Associate Regents Council 1993-1994. He served the York Rite Sovereign College of North America as Standard Bearer and Marshal General (1996-1998.) He was elected to the Board of Directors in 1998 and was Vice President of the USA Charitable Fund 1998-1999. He holds the Athelstan Jewel with one silver pentagon. He was elected a Regent of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America and holds honorary membership in fifteen Colleges. He has received the rank and decorations of Knight Commander of the

Purple Cross and the Grand Cross of York. He served as Governor General of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America 2002-2004. He currently serves as Chairman of the York Rite Sovereign College Committee on Finance and Budget.

He is an honorary member of the Grand York Rite Bodies of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia.

He holds honorary membership in the DeMolay Legion of Honor.

Grand Sovereign Hargett is a Past Excellent Chief of St. Patrick's in America Council No. 1, Knight Masons of the USA. He served on the Board of General Purposes, Grand Council of Knight Masons USA, 1996– 2004 and was appointed to the Investment Committee of the Grand Council of the USA in 2001. He is currently serving as Grand Junior Knight of the Grand Council of Knight Masons of the USA.

In the Allied Masonic Degrees Grand Sovereign Hargett is a life member and Past Sovereign Master of St. Andrews in America Council No. 1A. He also holds life memberships in J. Ray Shute Council No. 184, Anson Council No. 202, J. Allen Suther Council No. 377 and is a charter member of Horry Council No. 433. He holds honorary memberships in five additional councils. He is Past Commander Noah in St. Andrews in America No. 1A Royal Ark Mariners Lodge and a member of Howell No. 3A Royal Ark Mariners Lodge.

He is a past president of the North Carolina Association of Allied Masonic Degrees and holds the title of District Expert Master of the First District of North Carolina from the Supreme Quarry of the World, Masons of Tyre. Grand Sovereign Hargett served the Grand Council, Allied Masonic Degrees of the USA as Most Venerable Sovereign Grand Master and was appointed Grand Representative to the Grand Council of Allied Masonic Degrees of Canada in 2000. He holds the distinction of Knight Grand Cross of the Order. As such he is Past Grand Supreme Ruler of the Grand Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor or the Brotherhood of David and Jonathan in the USA and is a member of the Grand Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor or the Brotherhood of David and Jonathan in the British Isles and its Districts and Conclaves Overseas – he was inducted and received into the Order in Summus Conclave No. 3 and admitted a Prince of the Order. He presided over the Red Branch of Eri and was awarded the title of Past Most Enlightened Grand Master and Knight Supreme Grand Cross. He is a Past Grand Bung for the Americas of the Ancient Order of Corks and Past Commander General of the Masonic Order of the Bath in the USA. He holds the Degree of Knight Priest of the Order of Holy Wisdom. He is one of the Nine Muses, elected in 2004 and served as Sovereign Master in 2010-2011. In the Masonic Order of Athelstan for England, Wales and its Provinces Overseas, he was admitted and installed December 18, 2008 in the Province of Hwicce at Watling Street Court No. 3 in England. He consecrated and constituted The Provincial Grand Court of the United States of America and was Installed as Very Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master on February 9, 2011 and awarded Grand Rank (Grand Sword Bearer) by M.W. Michael Henry Roalfe, Grand Master. He consecrated and constituted the North Carolina Court No. 73 on February 9, 2011. He became a member of the Royal Order of Masonic Knights of the Scarlet Cord in the UK on November 12, 2008:

1st Degree Obligated, entrusted, and Invested an Ostiarius or Door-keeper

2nd Degree Invested a Lector or One of the Eleven Elected.

Chosen and Further Invested as a Healer and One of the Nine Elected.

3rd Degree Chosen and Promoted to Fellow of the Scarlet Cord and Elevated to the Rank of Exorcist February 13, 2010. He has received the President's Degree

On November 22, 2010 he was also elected to membership in Grafton Council of Anointed Kings No. 16 at Mark Masons Hall in London, England. He is a member of the Sirius Study Circle that meets at The Masonic Hall on Grove Road, Sutton, UK.

He holds the Royal Order of Zanzibar and is a member of the Grand Lounge of North Carolina and the Grand Lounge of Florida.

In the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite he is Past Venerable Master of the Lodge of Perfection in the Valley of Charlotte, Orient of North Carolina. He received the 32nd Degree on April 30, 1970 and is a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour.

Grand Sovereign Hargett is a honorary life member and permanent life member of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Royal Order of Scotland for the United States of America.

In the Shriners he is a Noble of Oasis Shriners of Charlotte, North Carolina and a member of the Past Masters' Unit and Hillbilly Clans No. 2 and No. 3. He is a member of the "Replace Yourself with One" membership program for the Imperial Council of the Shrine.

In the Grand College of Rites, Grand Sovereign Hargett received the Knight Grand Cross of the order in 2004. He served as Grand Redactor in 2008, Grand Prelate in 2009-2010 and is Grand Senior Vice Chancellor in 2011.

In the Red Cross of Constantine, Grand Sovereign Hargett was installed in St. Titus Conclave in 1986 and served as its Sovereign in 2002. He served as Intendant General for North Carolina and was elected and installed as Grand Sovereign on June 11, 2011 in Boise, Idaho. He holds the Knight Grand Cross of the Order.

In the SRICF he is Chief Adept of North Carolina College, holds the IXth Grade and serves the High Council for the USA as its Preceptor.

Grand Sovereign Hargett is a member and Past Preceptor of Holy Sepulchre Tabernacle No. III Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests and received the rank and decoration of Knight Commander. He is Grand 5th Pillar for the Grand College of America, HRAKTP.

He is a member of the South Carolina Lodge of Research, The Scottish Rite Research Society, The Philaethes Society and is the North Carolina local secretary for Quatuor Coronati Lodge of Research No. 2076.

Grand Sovereign Hargett is a member and Past Patron of Monroe Chapter No. 113, Order of the Eastern Star and received the Rob Morris Membership Jewel. He served as a District Deputy Grand Patron of the 18th District in North Carolina and is an honorary member of eight other chapters.

He became a member of Blackheethe Chapter, T.I. Order of St. Thomas of Acon February 17, 2000 and was a charter member and founder of Trinity Chapter No. 112 in the United States and also a charter member and founder of Shute Chapter No. 53 in Monroe, North Carolina. He is a Past Worthy Master and currently serves as Provincial Grand Marshal of the Provincial Grand Council, USA. He is also a founder and Cellarer of Pride in Surrey Chapel No. 93 in the United Kingdom.

Grand Sovereign Hargett is a Knight in the Chevaliers Bienfaisants De La Cite Sainte (Knights Beneficent of the Holy City.) He has been invested with the Supreme Grade of the Order and serves as Prefect of the Southeast Prefecture. He also belongs to the Grand Priory of Knights Beneficent of the Holy City of the Rectified Scottish Rite of England and Wales where he was made a member of St. James Priory No. 3 at Mark Masons Hall in London, December 18,2009. He received the Professed and The Grand Professed Knight Orders of the CBCS and received the Laying on of hands October 9, 2010 in Newark, NJ.

In other bodies, Grand Sovereign Hargett is a member of the Grand Order of the IMPS; a member of the Military Order of the Garter and the Order of the Golden Poppy. He was somewhat embarrassingly presented the Drowning Bear Award by the Nantahala Survivors. He was inducted into the George Dickel Tennessee Whiskey Water Conservation Society in Recognition of a Unique, Tall Walking, Smooth Talking, Mastery of the Fine Art of "Going With The Flow." He is a lifetime member of the Sour Mash Quaff and Quote Consanguinity, Elijah Craig Chapter No. 1. He was made a Tennessee Squire and Life Member of the "Society for the Preservation of Early American Art" Tennessee Type.

In the esoteric orders he is a member of the Oriental Masonic Order of the Primitive & Rectified Rite of Memphis Misraim, having received the 33rd thru the 95th Degrees September 11, 2009 in Sutton, England. In the Order of Isis he is a member of Urania Temple.

His record in the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn is as follows

| | | |
|--------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 0 = 0 | Grade of Neophyte | October 22, 2005 |
| 1 = 10 | Grade of Zelator | December 18, 2005 |
| 2 = 9 | Grade of Theoricus | December 9, 2006 |
| 3 = 8 | Grade of Practicus | September 27, 2008 |
| 4 = 7 | Grade of Philosophus | December 5, 2009 |
| | Portal Ceremony | February 28, 2010 |

Received as an Adeptus Minor in the Order of the Rose Cross Grade 5=6 April 10, 2011.

In the Martinist Order of Unknown Philosophers his record is as follows:

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Associate Degree | October 21, 2005 |
|------------------|------------------|

Initiate Degree December 18, 2005

Unknown Superior Degree December 19, 2005

Unknown Superior Initiator December 19, 2006

In the Unknown Philosophers (Elus Kohen):

Chevillion – Chambellant. Affiliation: Temple of Florida

1st Degree thru 7th Degree (Parvis and Porch Class)

8th Degree – Elect Master Kohen (Grand Architect) September 4, 2009 (Temple Class)

9th Degree – Knight of the East (Grand Elect of Zorobabel) December 8, 2009 (Temple Class)

10th Degree – Reaux Croix March 14, 2010 at Sutton, UK

He received Charter for Hermes - Hiram Chapter of Unknown Philosophers.

In the Hermetic Order of Martinists he was invested by the Grand Master of the World (Christopher Hatton) on November 11, 2008 as Superior Inconnu S:I:I with the ability to act within the dictates of his conscience.

Received into the Hermetic Chapter of the Martinist Order of Spiritual Knights in the UK in Kether Chapter - March 10, 2009.

Founder and Orator of Azoth Chapter of Spiritual Knights for the USA on February 10, 2010 which was Chartered and Constituted by John Paternoster, Grand Master.

Grand Sovereign Hargett became a member of the Fellowship of the Rosy Cross, Sacramentum Regis No 2, in New Zealand as a courtesy for Sepher Berashith Temple of the Fellowship of the Rosy Cross in the UK:

0=0 March 21, 2008

1=10 March 22, 2008

2=9 December 9, 2009

He became a member of Prince Edwin Conclave of Pilgrim Preceptors in the UK and was received as a Pilgrim and Advanced as a Pilgrim Preceptor on November 14, 2008. He was a founder and officer of Mayflower Conclave of Pilgrim Preceptors for the USA on March 15, 2010 at Radlett, UK.

He was inducted into the Worshipful Society of Free Masons, Rough Masons, Wallers, Slaters, Paviers, Plaisterers and Bricklayers (The Operatives) in Bryn Athyn Quarry Assemblage Allentown, PA:

1st and 2nd Degree November 28, 2008

3rd Degree June 27, 2009

He was presented a Charter as a Passed Master VI for Solar White Quarry Assemblage IV to I in Monroe, NC, in the Region of North America, United States of America Region for The Operatives (USAM) and appointed Regional Deputy Jachin.

He was made a life member of Radlett Cork Lodge on May 14, 2009 and created an Admiral of Lake Monroe by the Grand Fleet of Noble Corks at Radlett, UK.

In the August Order Of Light he presented on March 14, 2009 at Radlett, England and received:

1st Degree September 5, 2009 at Radlett

Passing of Garuda Degree December 12, 2009 at Radlett

2nd and Final Degree March 13th, 2010 at Radlett

Grand Sovereign Hargett belongs to the Pre-Nicene Ekklesia Apostolic Church Of The Golden and Rosy Cross. He was raised to The Holy Order of the Diaconate on September 2, 2010; raised to the Holy Order of Priesthood March 15, 2011 and admitted to the Sacred and Noble Order of the Knights Corvida on September 3, 2010 Hampsted, UK.

In The Fratres Lucis he was received and admitted into the Degrees of: Knight Novice of the Third Year, the Fifth Year, the Seventh Year, Knight Levite and Knight Priest at Grand Chapter on November 1, 2010. He received a Charter for Elias Ashmole Chapter to be held at Monroe, NC and was appointed as the first Preceptor, was appointed National Archon (National Grand Master) and received the CHARTER for the National Grand Chapter for the United States of America of the Fratres Lucis November 1, 2010. He was admitted to the Order of Fratres Lucis in The Philadelphia Preceptorial Chapter No. 1 in Anglia and is recognized as such by all Knight Priests. He was made a Knight and Brother Priest and elevated to Preceptor of the Order. He was admitted into the Healing, Teaching and Chivalric Order of St. Michael & St. Raphael and invested with the Rank, Title and Dignity of Knight of the Order on December 10, 2010 and Knighted by Leila Boyer, Grand Master and Lord Abbot.

2011-2012 GRAND OFFICERS INSTALLED IN BOISE



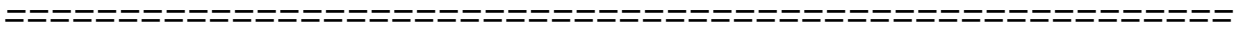
L to R: Very Illustrious Grand Junior General, Bill Miller; Very Illustrious Grand Senior General, Burch Zehner; Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign, David Hargett; Illustrious Grand Chancellor, Robert Finely; Illustrious Grand Almoner, Stephen Doan; and Right Illustrious Grand Recorder, Fred Kleyn, III, KGC.



ALOHA, HAWAII

On 19 April 2011, KC Bill Miller, Grand Chancellor, visited Opukahaia Conclave in Honolulu, HI. At lunch, there was a discussion of Red Cross matters as well as issues currently on the general Masonic agenda.

Left to Right: KC Dennis Ing, Puissant Sovereign; A. Lee Skinner, Intendant General Division of Hawaii; and, KC Bill Miller, Grand Chancellor



A Brief History of the Presence in Italy of the Red Cross of Constantine

By Knight Companion Franco Valgattarri, Intendant General Division of Italy

The first steps in order to bring in Italy also this Masonic Order were done about ten years ago. The presence of the Ritual Bodies of the York Rite needed to be completed by the introduction of this, most reputed and prestigious order and we asked to obtain its appointment from the highest legitimated international authority in the world: the United Grand Imperial Council of Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, sitting in the United States of America, so as all our capitular, cryptic and templar ritual grand bodies have had origin and legitimation in last fifty years.

We never wanted other interlocutors or any mediators. All our Ritual Bodies had their consecration in Italy only when the introduction was authorized by American authorities.

So, on February 22, 2002 (how many 2s!), four Italian R.A.M. Companions, Franco Valgattarri, Giorgio Rossi, Giampiero Trovalusci, Vincenzo Pulvirenti were convoked in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, to be admitted, constituted and installed Knights Companions of the Order.

Later they received the investitures of all the appendant orders and each necessary qualification in order to realize in Italy three conclaves: “Maxima Perfectio” in Milano, “Saxa Rubra” in Roma and “Eboracum” in Catania, whose dispensations were received from the hands of Most Illustrious Warren D. Lichty. K.G.C., in Pittsburg.

The three Charters were presented to Valgattarri, Trovalusci and Rossi by the Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign Curtis N. Lancaster in Salt Lake City, during the one hundred thirty third annual assembly on June 4, 2005.

Since the maximum number members of each conclave was 25 Knights Companions, a careful and slow selection was begun among the better Italian Companions in order to accept only the best of them.

The first ceremony conferring the orders to the first group was held in Rome on June 22, 2002, in the presence of the Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign Gary Hermann, K.G.C. and Very Illustrious Grand Recorder Ned E. Dull, by whom the occasion of a careful visit in all the most important places of the Constantinian epic adventure (the battle field at Saxa Rubra, the Vatican Basilic, the Roman Forum, Coliseum, the Thermae and Curia, his statues, etc.) was very appreciated. The degrees were conferred in a religious structure (Three Fountains Abbey) on the place of St. Paul's martyrdom.

Other joint ceremonies were held during the following years in Reggio Calabria, Siena, Bologna, Lucca, Roma, Massa Marittima, Catania, Parma, Montecatini, some time in occasion of the annual meetings of our Rite, some time under specific convocation. A banquet follows every event.



Left to Right: KC Gianpiero Trovalusci, Puissant Sovereign Saxa Rubra Conclave, Rome; KC Giorgio Rossi, Puissant Sovereign Maxima Perfectio Conclave, Milan; and, KC Franco Valgattarri, Intendant General Division of Italy

The evaluation for the choice of the candidates is based, besides their personal highest qualities and their performance in the civil life, on three Masonic factors: the determination in the practice of the principles of the capitular masonry and in the defence of our common civility (FAITH); the spirit of union and harmony in their actions (UNITY); the enthusiasm in the profession of their faith and the achievement in involving deserving others in the common creed (ZEAL).

For the care in the selection, we are still under the consented maximum in our total membership. Each current presiding Grand Officer of our three Ritual Grand Bodies is a Knight Companion: Emilio Attinà, Grand High Priest R.A.M; Franco Baioni, Grand Master Cryptic Masons; Gilberto Bonaccorso, Grand Commander K.T. Proud of the privilege to live in the Country where the Constantinian epos had its origin, every Italian Knight Companion shall be glad to put himself at disposal for what can be useful to a better knowledge of our history in favour of our American Brethren.

[Editor's Note: If you would like to visit one of the Conclaves in the Division of Italy, contact the Intendant General, KC Franco Valgattari by e-mail at francovalgattari@virgilio.it]

DIVISION OF REPUBLIC OF PANAMA ANNUAL ASSEMBLY – FEBRUARY 2011

The annual assembly of the San Lorenzo Conclave of the Division of the Republic of Panama was held on Saturday, 5 February 2011, at the Union Club in the center of Panama City. The open installation of officers was attended by many dignitaries, including the Most Worshipful Brother Raul de Obaldia, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Panama. Overall, 40 people, including wives, attended the best banquet in the memory of the Conclave!



Left to Right: KC Donald Garrido, Intendant General Division of the Republic of Panama; KC Alberto Lalo, Past Puissant Sovereign; KC Rafael A Cedeño, Puissant Sovereign; and, KC Marcos Ostrander, Recorder

EUSEBIUS OF CAESARA

Eusebius (about 260 – 330) was a famous church historian. He was forced during persecution under Maximinus to flee for his life to Egypt, but returned, and in 313 was made Bishop of Caesara. During the Council of Nice, he led the moderate party of Arians. The Emperor Constantine was the friend and admirer of Eusebius. Among the works of Eusebius are the history of the world to the Time of Constantine, and a history of the Christian Church to 324.

(On the following page see Eusebius's, "An Ancient Prayer.")

An Ancient Prayer

May I be no man's enemy, and may I be the friend of that which is eternal and abides. May I never quarrel with those nearest me; and if I do may I be reconciled quickly. May I never devise evil against any man. May I love, seek and attain only that which is good. May I wish for all men's happiness and envy none. May I never rejoice in the ill-fortune of one who has wronged me. When I have done or said what is wrong, may I never wait the rebuke of others, but always rebuke myself until I make amends. May I win no victory that harms either me or my opponent. May I reconcile friends who are wroth with one another.

May I, to the extent of my power, give all needful help to my friends and to all who are in want. May I never fail a friend in danger. When visiting those in grief, may I be able by gentle and healing words to soften their pain. May I respect myself. May I always keep tame that which rages within me. May I accustom myself to be gentle, and never be angry with people because of circumstances. May I never discuss who is wicked and what wicked things he has done, but know good men and follow their footsteps.

EUSEBIUS, 4th Century



CITY OF MEXICO CONCLAVE, DIVISION OF MEXICO

Present at the Annual Conclave Assembly in Ajijic, Jalisco, Mexico, on 10 March 2011 were
Left to Right: KC Denny Strole, Intendant General/Puissant Sovereign; KC Jim Herndon,
Grand Sovereign; KC Bill Miller, Grand Chancellor; and KC Jaime Galicia Briseño, Eminent
Vicroy

Asoka Conclave – Manila, Republic of the Philippines

On 26 April 2011, the Grand Chancellor visited with a few members of Asoka Conclave in Manila. The following day all of us travelled south to the Grand Lodge of the Philippines Annual Communication in Davao.



Left to Right: KC Rafael J. Roxas, Past Sovereign, Asoka Conclave and Eminent Grand Commander, Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the Philippines; SK Victor Antonio T. Espejo, Grand Sentinel, Grand Commandery of Knights Templar Philippines; KC Crispulo M. Fernandez, incoming Intendant General for the Division of Philippines, RCC; KC Bill Miller, Grand Chancellor, UGIC; KC Antonio Joson, Puissant Sovereign, Asoka Conclave; KC Evaristo "Sonny" Leviste, Past Sovereign and Incoming Intendant General for the Division of Guam/Japan, RCC; Joe McIntyre; and, KC Isaac "Ike" Arribas, Jr., Past Sovereign, and Grand Secretary-Recorder, Grand York Rite Bodies of the Philippines.

Editor's Note: In the February 2011 issue of The Byzantium, at the bottom of page 9, the e-mail address for the Intendant General of Puerto Rico was inadvertently omitted. His e-mail address is: monty3@prtc.nt; however, KC Ramon Montanez retired after 10 years as the Intendant General for Puerto Rico, and the newly install Intendant General for Puerto Rico is KC José R. López, and his e-mail is: lopezjr@prtc.net

GUATEMALA CONCLAVE No. 1

A HISTORY

The seeds of the Guatemala Conclave were sown in the mid-1960s. Four members of the Knights Templar Guatemala Commandery No. 1 had a keen interest in organizing a Red Cross of Constantine Conclave in city of Guatemala. This interest was prompted by the fact that one of these men, John Carlos Loayza, had been previously received into the Order in Chicago. The desire to start a Conclave continued over the years, and ultimately formal contact was made with the United Grand Imperial Council.

Seeing this interest in Guatemala, the UGIC invited them to join a Conclave assembly in Mexico City, and eventually on 30 September 1976, the other three members were Knighted. This move fueled the interest, and on 31 March 1977, nine additional candidates joined the Order. A request for a charter was granted, and on 3 June 1977, authorization was given to begin work as the Guatemala Conclave No.1.

The first Puissant Sovereign was KC Johannes Marinus Van Beusekom Korem, and the first Eminent Vicroy was KC William Boden. The Conclave continued to “work”. Then, in 1994, seven additional Knights were initiated, at Assemblies held on 31 October and 11 November. Following this activity, in 1995, the Conclave entered a period of “darkness” as a result of the illness of the Sovereign, KC Van Beusekom.

In early 2006, the Intendant General of the Division of Panama, KC Donald Garrido, contacted KC Van Beusekom and instructed him to reactivate the Conclave. Accordingly, on 9 March 2006, a new slate of officers was elected, and KC Jose Ramon Huerta Ardon became the Puissant Sovereign. And on 16 March 2006, additional Knights Templars were initiated, including five Brothers from San Salvador. Since 2006 and continuing each year to date, meetings of the Solstice of Summer and Winter have been held.

At the June 2011 Assembly, five proposed members were approved, to be initiated into the Conclave on 26 September.

Today, KC Jose Ramon Huerta Ardon continues as Puissant Sovereign, KC Edgar Alfredo Herrera de Leon is Eminent Viceroy, and KC Francisco Alberto Saenz Maldonado is Secretary/Treasurer. In June 2011, KC Denny Strole, the Intendant General for the Division of Mexico was given responsibility for Guatemala Conclave No. 1. Should you desire to visit the Guatemala Conclave, contact KC Eduardo Perez...eduardo.perez.p@gmail.com .



KC José Ramon Huerta Ardón, Puissant Sovereign

CONTRIBUTIONS TO *THE BYZANTIUM*

Contributions of articles and photos are sincerely requested. When your Conclave has an event or special occasion, take photos, write an article and send it to the Editor, KC Denny Strole, dstrole@gmail.com. Ideally, photos should have only 4 or 5 subjects, so each may be easily seen and identified. Please, take the time to send your contributions, as the event occurs, and make *The Byzantium* a quality publication; it is yours!

140th ANNUAL GRAND ASSEMBLY – CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA 2012

VENUE INFORMATION

THE EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL – Our hotel is located at 4800 S. Tryon Street, Charlotte, North Carolina 28217 just four and one half miles from Charlotte Douglas International Airport, Uptown Charlotte and the Southpark shopping experience. Complimentary airport shuttle to and from Charlotte Douglas International Airport and local surrounding area to include the Lynx light rail station. We have 274 two room suites on eight floors, 162 King suites, 110 Double/double suites and two Presidential suites. Each suite features a private bedroom with one king size or two double beds. A separate living room with sofa bed and well-lit dining/work table, microwave, coffeemaker, refrigerator, two remote control televisions with in-room movies and a private bath. Year round Indoor Pool, Whirlpool Tub, Sauna, Fitness Room and Sun Deck. We are pleased to offer to each guest a Complimentary, Cooked-to-Order Breakfast each morning, two hour Manger's reception daily, free parking, Complimentary weekday morning newspaper, Business Center and Hilton HHonors Program for points and miles.

GRAND ASSEMBLY ATTRACTIONS – Area attractions include the Charlotte Coliseum, upscale boutiques and restaurants of Southpark's Phillip's Place, Blumenthal Performing Arts Center, Discovery Place / Omni max, museums and much more. The General Assembly includes a tour of the Billy Graham Library. Discover his humble beginnings as you tour the Graham family home place and learn about his early years on a dairy farm. Find out how God used Billy Graham to shape history as you explore his relationships with world leaders. You'll discover the man, the ministry, and the message and catch a vision for the mission still being carried on today.

Optional tours include the recently opened NASCAR Hall of Fame where you can trace the series from its earliest roots to current events. There are several interactive stations where you can experience a pit stop or what it feels like to drive a race car in a simulated race environment. Charlotte Motor Speedway is included in the optional tours. Attendees will tour the speedway

facilities and ride on the actual racing surface. There will also be an opportunity to take a ride along experience in a race car. For those who have already experienced these two events, the final optional tour is the beautiful Historic Latta Plantation located on the Catawba River. This tour is designed to give us an idea of what life was like on a cotton plantation during the 19th century from growing and harvesting short staple cotton, farm animals and bee keeping. Site tours include an optional 15 minute introductory video, a guided tour of the plantation home and self-guided tour of the grounds and outbuildings.

CHARLOTTE DOUGLAS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT – The Embassy Suites Hotel is 4 miles east of the airport and free shuttle service is provided by the hotel. The hotel shuttle stop is at the center aisle after exiting the baggage claim area. Should you plan to rent a vehicle, the rental car counters are located in the center of the baggage claim area.

IF YOU ARE DRIVING – From the (north or south) on Interstate 85 merge onto Interstate 77 South / US 21 South via Exist 38 toward Columbia. Go 7.6 miles and take the NC 49 South exit, EXIT 6B, toward Airport / South Tryon Street. Turn onto South Tryon Street / NC 49 South. Go 0.2 mile and the Embassy Suites Hotel will be on the right.

From the (north or south) on Interstate 77, take the NC 49 South exit, EXIT 6B, toward Airport / South Tryon Street. Turn right onto South Tryon Street / NC 49 South. Go 0.2 mile and the Embassy Suites Hotel will be on the right.

DRESS FOR MEN & WOMEN – All meals except the Saturday night Banquet will be casual for the men and ladies. **(No jacket, tie, jewel or sash)**. The Saturday night banquet is formal with black Tuxedo or white dinner jacket **(with jewel and sash)** for the men and long or cocktail dresses for the ladies. For all tours the dress is casual.

REGISTRATION – Will begin Thursday, at 11:00 A.M., on the first floor in the Pre Function area of the ballroom.

UNITED GRAND IMPERIAL COUNCIL RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE
140TH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

May 30 – June 2 , 2012

Embassy Suites Hotel

4800 S. Tryon Street, Charlotte, N.C. 28217

(704) – 527 – 8400 OR 1 – 800 – EMBASSY

embassysuites.com

\$124.00 single or double occupancy, additional \$20.00 per person for triple or quad.

Includes cooked to order breakfast and 2 hour managers reception each day.

Room reservations must be made by April 30, 2012 to receive the "RCC" discounted rate.

Registration Fee \$ 160.00 per person

Name: _____ Lady's Name if Attending: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name & Location of Conclave _____

Office _____ National Office _____

National Office in Other Masonic Body _____

Have you made your reservation with the Hotel? _____ Yes _____ No

I (we) will arrive on _____ I (we) will depart _____
(Date) (Date)

Registration Fee of \$ 160.00 Per Person includes Lunch Friday & Saturday & Dinner Thursday, Friday & Saturday and the Billy Graham Library Tour No. _____ @ \$ 160.00 ea. \$ _____

Knight Companion Lady

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Will attend the Thursday Evening Dinner, May 31st |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Will attend the Friday Men's and Ladies Lunch, June 1st |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Will attend the Billy Graham Library Tour, June 1st |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Will attend the Friday Evening Dinner, June 1st |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Will attend the Saturday Men's and Ladies Lunch, June 2nd |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Will attend the Saturday Grand Banquet, June 2nd |

OPTIONAL TOURS & COMMEMORATIVE CONCLAVE COIN

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|----------------|----------|
| Thursday, May 31, 1:00 PM | NASCAR Hall of Fame | No. _____ | @ \$ 35.00 ea. | \$ _____ |
| Friday, June 2, 1:00 PM | Charlotte Motor Speedway | No. _____ | @ \$ 35.00 ea. | \$ _____ |
| Friday, June 2, 1:00 PM | Latta Plantation Tour | No. _____ | @ \$ 35.00 ea. | \$ _____ |
| | Commemorative Coin | No. _____ | @ \$ 10.00 ea. | \$ _____ |

TOTAL \$ _____

Special Dietary Needs: _____

Make Checks Payable To: "140th Annual Conclave"

Mail To: Allen Surratt, 6587 Surratt Ctry. Road, Denton, N. C. 27239-9082

E- Mail: newhope@rtmc.net **Cell Phone:** 336 – 953 – 0066

This form and your check must be received by April 30, 2012

NO REFUNDS AFTER MAY 15, 2012

United Grand Imperial Council Red Cross of Constantine Officers – 2011 - 2012

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| | |
|--|----------|
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| Burch E. Zehner , Very Illustrious Grand Senior General | Lynn |
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| Joe R. Manning, Jr., KGC , Illustrious Grand Trustee (2013) | Cindy |
| Robert S. Finley , Illustrious Grand Chancellor | Kay |
| R. Stephen Doan , Illustrious Grand Almoner | Donna |

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| | |
|--|----------|
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2011 – 2012

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