



The Byzantium



United Grand Imperial Council Red Cross of Constantine

Volume XX

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Issue 1

THE GRAND SOVEREIGN



BURCH EUGENE ZEHNER

GRAND SOVEREIGN'S MESSAGE

Knights Companions:

Thank you for the opportunity to serve this Constantian Order as your Grand Sovereign. I believe this station is the pinnacle in the Bodies of Freemasonry and I am honored and humbled having been elected to this high office.

We had a great time at the U.G.I.C. Annual Assembly held in Kansas City, Missouri. The meetings, tours, meals were all well planned and executed. If you have never attended, you're missing a good time and great fellowship. And I especially appreciate the support from all the Knights Companions and their ladies that came from Ohio, twenty six in all.

In July, the Knights Companions and their ladies held a very successful roast for me. The attendance was one hundred thirty. The stories they told will long be remembered, and yes we all had a great time.

The following week we traveled to the Southwestern Regional which was held this year in Reno, Nevada. We visited a couple of city attractions on Friday before attending the Assemblies on Saturday. The Orders and Degrees were well done by the cast members. On Sunday our special host treated us to a trip to Virginia City. This is the old west town complete with silver mine, cowboys, jail, train ride, museum and more. On Monday we visited the Planetarium in Reno.

We flew home late Tuesday and flew back out early Wednesday to Tampa, Florida for the Annual meeting of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America. Thursday we visited the home and museum of the Ringing Brothers Circus. Friday was the Science and IMAX and finished the day having dinner with a large delegation of Brethren and their ladies from Ohio. Saturday was the formal meeting with introductions including the office of Grand Sovereign of U.G.I.C. My Lady Lynn and I were treated royally.

August was a busy month. First we flew to the Oklahoma Triad Assembly where we were picked up at the airport. The first night we were taken to a very nice restaurant with great food. After that everything else took place at the hotel. They have good accommodations for hosting numerous other Masonic events. The degrees and Orders were well done in an orderly and timely fashion. While the Knights Companions were in session they had a great day planned for the ladies, which Lady Lynn thoroughly enjoyed.

The following weekend we drove to St. Louis for the Missouri Divisional Assembly. They have a very good printed program with times, locations and names. The Sovereign with the Intendants General had a plan and worked it. I witnessed fine conferrals. There was a wonderful tour for the ladies. At the banquet the Grand Master of Missouri and many other Masonic dignitaries were present.

The next weekend found us traveling to Washington, D.C. for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the A.A.S.R. Ill. John Wm. McNaughton, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander and Intendant General at Large for the U.G.I.C. and his committees treated us royally. I was introduced and recognized with other grand officers at the General Session.

The following weekend we attended the Southern Masonic Jurisdiction also held in Washington, D.C. And again we were treated royally. Ill. Ronald A. Seale, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander and Intendant General at Large for U.G.I.C. received me during their General Session. I have now witnessed both versions of the thirty third degree, Northern and Southern style.

In September we went to Nashville, Tennessee to attend the Convent General, KYCH. I was introduced at the formal meeting and during our stay I met with many other Knights Companions and ladies that had traveled from many other states. There was a large contingent from Ohio.

I've enjoyed attending the Assemblies and witnessing the Orders and Degrees. I strongly urge that the room for the degree work should be set up like a Lodge Room. Chairs should be placed on the North and South sides, not behind the West. A printing of our new improved pocket size rituals are available through your Recorders. I would encourage the Viceroy and Sovereign of each Conclave to read our Constitution, 805.030 and 805.040 being pages 53 and 54.

In the coming months, I'm looking forward to visiting Conclaves in Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and New York. It is a great honor to meet and make new friends with the leaders of all branches of Freemasonry. Our ranks are filled with great Masonic leaders. The Knights Companions of the Red Cross of Constantine and their ladies are special people.

142nd UGIC Annual Assembly – DAYTON, OHIO

The UGIC Annual Assembly will be held in Dayton, Ohio, on 12, 13, and 14 June 2014. Watch the website at redcrossconstantine.org, annual assembly, for detailed information as it becomes available.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW, you don't want to miss this wonderful annual event.

GRAND SOVEREIGN'S BIOGRAPHY

Burch Eugene Zehner was born in Lodi, Ohio on November 20, 1931, the first of two sons born to Burch Everett Zehner and Marguerite Daisie McNee. He attended Dayton Public Schools and graduated from Fairview High School in 1950. After attending Heidelberg College he pursued the tool making trade until 1962 when he entered the field of real estate. Since then he has been a broker, home builder, rental manager and court approved real estate appraiser. He is a fifty year member of the Dayton Area Board of Realtors, Ohio Association of Realtors, National Association of Realtors and the National Residential Appraisers Institute.

On November 25, 1955, he married Marilyn Martha Miller. They have two sons, Burch Edward Zehner and wife Ellen, and Bryan James Zehner and wife Beverly. Both these families have two daughters, Raine, Rachel, Brandy and Brittney respectively. Both sons are York Rite and Scottish Rite Masons.

Baptized at College Hill Church in Dayton, he later joined Shiloh United Church of Christ in 1956 and served as usher, deacon and chairman for the annual Church Fair.

He is a life member of the Sons of the American Revolution and the National Rifle Association of America. Commissioned a Kentucky Colonel in 2008.

Brother Zehner is a fourth generation Mason beginning with his membership in Dayton Chapter of the Order of DeMolay, and is an Active Member of the Legion of Honor of the International Supreme Council of the Order of DeMolay. In 1964 he was raised in Riverview Lodge No. 717, Grand Lodge of F.&A.M. of Ohio, soon became an officer and served as Worshipful Master in 1975. In 2000, Riverview Lodge merged into Millennium Lodge No. 779 and he became a charter member. He was Exalted in Mt. Moriah Chapter No. 230, Royal Arch Masons in 1970 and served as Excellent High Priest in 1978. A member of Applo Chapter R.A.M. No. 2. He was Advanced in Silver Trowel Council No. 141, Royal & Select Masons in 1973 and served as Illustrious Master in 1982. He is a life member of the General Grand Council Cryptic Masons, International. Also, a life member of Anchorage Chapter No. 3, R.A.M., Anchorage Council No. 1, R.&S.M. and Anchorage Commandery No. 2, Knights Templar, all of Alaska.

Sir Knight Zehner was Knighted in Reed Commandery No. 6, Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Ohio in 1974 and served as Eminent Commander in 1985, followed by 18 years as Treasurer. A life member of St. George Commandery No. 76. He holds honorary memberships in Valley Commandery No. 80, Dayton Commandery No. 68, Middletown Commandery No. 71 and Miami Commandery No. 22. He has received the Order of Knight Eminent Commander and Sovereign Order of Knights Preceptor. He drilled in complete drill for many years and served as a Drill Judge. In 1988, Sir Knight Donald E. Shoemaker, Sr., REPGC, appointed him as his Aide de Camp. He is a Past President of the Second Division Council for Templar Advancement and served five years as Deputy Division Commander. Sir Knight Sylvester L. Maust, KCT, REPGC, appointed him Grand Sentinel in 1997 and then he was elected Grand Warden, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Generalissimo, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander and finally Right Eminent Grand Commander on October 5, 2007. Sir Knight Zehner was invested with the Knight

Commander of the Temple from the Grand Encampment in 2003.

Illustrious Brother Zehner received the degrees of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite in the Valley of Dayton in November of 1965. He was appointed Master of Entrances of Miami Council of Princes of Jerusalem in 1976, serving as a line officer and was Sovereign Prince in 1984 and 1985. In 1986, he was created a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, Honorary Member of the Supreme Council, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite. S.K. Zehner is a Past President of the Valley of Dayton 33° Club, and has served as Captain of the Valley Membership committee for 20 years.

In other activities at the Dayton Temple, Burch is a Past President of the Masters, Wardens and Secretaries Association and the York Rite Council of the Dayton Masonic Temple. He was a Proxy to the Board of Shareholders of the Dayton Masonic Temple from 1976 to 1992, and has been a member of the Dayton Masonic Foundation since its inception in 1994. He has served as chairman of the Christmas Observance and Easter Dawn Programs held at the Masonic Center for a period of ten years.

Noble Zehner is a member of Antioch Shrine, A.A.O.N.M.S. and took part in the Ritualistic Cast for 25 years. In addition he is a member of the Past Masters Club. He is a member of Dayton Court No. 10, Royal Order of Jesters, and is a Past President of the Arabic Club and the Mariners Club of Dayton.

Burch is a Past Sovereign Master and life member of Thomas Smith Webb Council No. 57, Allied Masonic Degrees, constituted a Knight of the Red Branch of Eri, life member of Puget Sound Council No. 5, Royal Ark Mariners, and Past Preceptor of Temple Tabernacle No. LXII, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests and an honorary member of Prince of Peace Tabernacle No. X. He is member of Ohio College of Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis, IX° Grade; Life member of Royal Order of Scotland; life member Grand College of Rites, and is a Grand Commander Occidental (GCO) of the Royal Society of Knights Occidental. He is a Charter Member and Past Governor of Miami Valley York Rite College No. 193 and a recipient of the Gold Honor Award and was invested with the Order of the Purple Cross of York. He was Knighted in Ohio Priory No. 18 in 1986 and a Knight York Grand Cross of Honor in 2007. He is a Past President of Miami Valley Association of Knights of the York Cross of Honour. A Knight of Trinity Chapel No. 14, Commemorative Order of St. Thomas of Acon. Burch is a Past Excellent Chief and charter member of Irish Council No. 69, Knight Masons of the U.S.A. and a Knight Commander of Zerubbabel. A member in Perpetuity of the National Sojourners.

Knight Companion Zehner was installed as a Knight of the Red Cross of Constantine in 1984 in Holy Grail Conclave, elected Recorder in 1988 and Sovereign in 1995. He is also a member of Charlemagne Conclave and an Honorary member of St. Columba, Lafayette, St. Jerome and Holyrood Conclaves. His service to the United Grand Imperial Council of the Red Cross of Constantine includes being appointed Grand Chamberlain and Grand Herald. He has also served as chairman of the Chartered Conclaves Committee for ten years. In 2008 he was elected Grand Almoner followed by Grand Chancellor, Grand Junior General, Grand Senior General and Grand Viceroy in 2012.

OHIO SUPPORTS THEIR NEW GRAND SOVEREIGN

At the 141st UGIC Annual Assembly in Kansas City, 26 Knights Companions and their ladies came from Ohio to support the newly installed Grand Sovereign, KC Burch E. Zehner.



Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign, KC Burch E. Zehner, and his Lady, Lynn are in the front row, center of the photo above. Also pictured are Ohio's two Intendants General, KC Harvey C. Lowry and KC Richard L. Weaver. Other officers pictured are: KCs Steven A. Duncan, Grand Chamberlain; Neil M. Smalley, Grand Orator; Jim J. Buckingham, Grand Standard Bearer; Franklin C. Boner, Grand Marshal; Robert H. Coster, Grand Herald; Bobby G. Campbell, Grand Sentinel; J. Randy Clark, Grand Chaplain. (see Appointed Officer individual photos on page 6)

ORDERING PROCEDURES FOR NEW RITUAL BOOKS

The new ritual books containing the Ceremonies of Subordinate Conclaves are now available. They should be ordered, when you need them, from the printer, please don't try and stock up:

Mitchell Fleming Printing
PO Box 53
Knightstown, IN 46148

For the time being they may be ordered by mail only. The cost for each ritual book is \$6.00 plus \$2.75 handling charge per order. The books will be sent by US Priority Mail, and the shipping cost is \$5.15 for 1 – 12 books.

Rituals may only be ordered and sent to a Conclave Recorder, an Intendant General or a Grand Officer. Other KCs should obtain copies of the ritual from the Recorder of their Conclave.

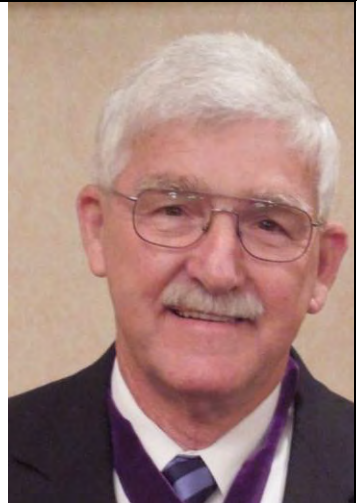
Payment in the form of a check should be sent with the order.

Mitchell Fleming will add electronic payment & internet ordering as soon as practical.

Forward any identified typos to the Grand Recorder.

If you have any questions, call or e-mail the Grand Recorder or the printer.

THE GRAND SOVEREIGN NAMES UGIC APPOINTED OFFICERS FOR 2013-2014



Steven A. Duncan
Grand Chamberlain

Neil M. Smalley
Grand Orator

Jim J. Buckingham
Standard Bearer

Franklin C. Boner
Grand Marshal



Robert H. Coster
Grand Herald

Bobby G. Campbell
Grand Sentinel

Duane A. Kemerly
Grand High Prelate

J. Randolph Clark
Grand Chaplain

FYI..from the CONSTITUTION: Chapter 4, Grand Imperial Council Officers

ARTICLE 1 – SELECTION OF THE GRAND IMPERIAL COUNCIL OFFICERS

§404.100. PREREQUISITE FOR OFFICERS. Each officer of the Grand Imperial Council must be a member of a Conclave in this Jurisdiction. Each officer, other than the Grand High Prelate or a Grand Chaplain must, at the time of his election or appointment, be a member of the Senate of Sovereigns. [Source: Section 2 of Article IV of the 1958 Constitution of the United Grand Imperial Council.]

§404.150. APPOINTED OFFICERS. The Grand High Prelate, the Grand Chamberlain, the Grand Orator, the Grand Standard Bearer, the Grand Marshal, the Grand Herald and the Grand Sentinel shall be appointed by the Grand Sovereign, after his election, at each Annual Assembly. In addition, one or more Grand Chaplains may be appointed by the Grand Sovereign, after his election, at each Annual Assembly. All appointive Grand Imperial Council Officers shall be installed before the close of each Annual Assembly. They shall hold their respective offices during the will and pleasure of the Grand Sovereign. [Source: Section 2 of Article IV of the 1958 Constitution of the United Grand Imperial Council.]

KNIGHT COMMANDER OF CONSTANTINE

In Kansas City, Knights Companions received this coveted award from the Grand Sovereign



Above: Grand Sovereign Ronald E. Wood, Jr, KGC, presenting the Knight Commander of Constantine to KC Fred E. Allen, Past Intendant General of Texas Northern Division and Grand Trustee of the United Grand Imperial Council at the annual Assembly in Kansas City, Missouri in June.

Above: Grand Sovereign Ronald E. Wood, Jr, KGC, presenting the Knight Commander of Constantine to KC Donald P. Garrido, Past Intendant General of the Division of Panama, and Grand Commander of Panama. He remains the Recorder of San Lorenzo Conclave.

KNIGHT COMMANDER OF CONSTANTINE

The idea of a grade of knighthood between Knight of the Red Cross of Constantine and Knight Grand Cross was first proposed in and by England. Establishing such a grade was considered briefly at the 1960 Annual Assembly of the UGIC, and then studied by a committee between 1960 and 1961. At the 1961 Annual Assembly, legislation to accomplish the addition of KCC was presented and laid over for a year, as was then required. At the 1962 Annual Assembly the necessary legislation was passed to make the appropriate changes to the Constitution, Statutes and Regulations to establish the grade of Knight Commander of Constantine (KCC).

Knight Commander of Constantine is conferred only upon devoted and faithful members of the United Grand Imperial Council, who have served a total of ten years or more as either an Intendant General, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, Trustee or Chairman of a Standing Committee or any combination thereof. Then, as now, a maximum of two KCCs per year could be made by the Grand Sovereign with the concurrence of the Grand Viceroy; however, they are not always awarded. During the first year of its availability, a maximum of five KCCs could be made, probably to provide an initial boost when getting started. In 1962, only one KCC was named, Daniel B. Trefethen of Seattle, Washington; he was invested on 20 October 1962.

The legislation that established the grade of KCC specified that there should never be more than fifty Knights Commander of Constantine, thereafter the dignity may only be conferred when a vacancy in that number occurs. Today, there are 22 living Knights Commander of Constantine.

DIVISION OF OREGON CONCLAVES RENDEZVOUS IN KANSAS CITY



The two Conclaves of the Division of Oregon were in attendance at the UGIC Annual Assembly in Kansas City, and it was the first UGIC Annual Assembly for some, and they were impressed. The two Conclave Sovereigns, and four ladies attended. All enjoyed the tours to the Truman Library and the Patee Museum, especially the old cars and other antiques, and where Jesse James met his maker! L to R: KC John H Smith, KCC; KC Jerold Cochran, Sovereign of St. Janus Conclave; KC Jerry Mauceus, Sovereign of St. Laurence Conclave; KC Jim Aday, IG Division of Oregon; and, KC Courtland (CB) Brooks, PS.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE...an educational note

History records that Helena, the mother of Constantine, making a visit to the Holy City, learned from aged Christians that the cross upon which Jesus died had been thrown into a pit near the place of crucifixion. She caused a search to be made; the pit was “discovered containing three crosses, one of which was recognized as the true cross.” Over the spot where the crosses were found St. Helena and Constantine caused a stately church to be erected and known as the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Upon the completion of the church, Constantine established the new Order of Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, whose members were selected from the Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine. Thereafter, they devoted their lives to guarding the Holy Sepulchre, and assumed the duty of guarding the pilgrims who visited the Holy Sepulchre.

The original investments in the new Order were made at Jerusalem, the Knightly vows being made while kneeling at the sacred tomb.

It is also said Constantine instituted the Order of Knight of the Grand Cross which he conferred (326 A.D.) on several of his Generals and Magistrates as a special mark of merit and distinction.

SAINT JAMES CONCLAVE, Shamokin, PA

At a regular Conclave Assembly on 27 March 2013, a special occasion took place; the leaders of all the Pennsylvania York Rite Bodies were in attendance for the first time! And, all of these individuals are members of St. James Conclave with the exception of the Right Worshipful Grand Master Jay W. Smith, who is a member of Trinity Conclave in Harrisburg, PA



First row, L to R are: KC F. Dean Lewis, Most Puissant Grand Master, Grand Council of Royal & Select Master Masons of PA; KC Charles L. Klingaman, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Most Excellent Grand Chapter of PA; KC Jay W. Smith, Right Worshipful Grand Master, Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of PA & Masonic Jurisdictions belonging there-to, KC Ronald E. Hoover, Puissant Sovereign, St. James Conclave; KC Wilmer E. Hall, Right Eminent Grand Commander, Grand Commandery of The Knights Templar of PA; and, KC Henry L. Leshar, Intendant General of PA Central, United Grand Imperial Council.

A BIT OF CONSTANTIAN HUMOR? (from the Editor)

The other day I heard a piece about the origin of April Fool's Day. It was attributed to Constantine about 330 AD. So, I looked it up on the internet, and there was a reference to the story. It is printed here for your information, and perhaps a chuckle!

Constantine and Kugel

“Another explanation of the origins of April Fools' Day was provided by Joseph Boskin, a professor of history at Boston University. He explained that the practice began during the reign of [Constantine](#), when a group of court jesters and fools told the Roman emperor that they could do a better job of running the empire. Constantine, amused, allowed a jester named Kugel to be king for one day. Kugel passed an edict calling for absurdity on that day, and the custom became an annual event.

"In a way," explained Prof. Boskin, "it was a very serious day. In those times fools were really wise men. It was the role of jesters to put things in perspective with humor."

This explanation was brought to the public's attention in an Associated Press article printed by many newspapers in 1983. There was only one catch: Boskin made the whole thing up. It took a couple of weeks for the AP to realize that they'd been victims of an April Fools' joke themselves.”

CITY OF MEXICO CONCLAVE

On Saturday, 25 May 2013, the Conclave held an Assembly in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico, attended by Knights Companions from across Mexico, where KC Gerardo Manjarrez Cisneros was duly installed.



L-R front row: KCs Armando Torres, Ricardo Ruiz, Dennis Strole (IG Mexico/Guatemala), Gerardo Manjarrez, Heriberto Rodriguez; Back row: KCs Jose Luis Ramirez, Juan Navarro, Francisco Cuevas, Jack Norman, Arturo Fero

SAINT SIMONS CONCLAVE, Sioux Falls, SD

On 3 November 2012, the Conclave's officers were installed as well as six new Knights Companions.



L to R: Puissant Sovereign, KC George Cross; Viceroy, KC Richard Decker; Recorder, KC Robert D. Webb; Senior General, KC Matt Schatz; Junior General, KC Douglas McFarland; Treasurer, KC Robert Osborne; Prelate, KC Clinton Erhart; Prefect, KC Richard McBride; Standard Bearer, KC Roger Kehm; Hearld, KC Leslie Spies; Sentinel, KC Roger Hansen. Newly installed KCs left to right, Douglas Pappendick, Jeffery Clapper, Greg Hall, Roger Hansen, Darrel Bjerke and James Taylor.

GUATEMALA CONCLAVE

On 15 June 2013, the Guatemala Conclave met in Guatemala City for their regular Assembly. The four KCs from el Salvador were in attendance!



L to R: KCs Enrique Allwood (El Salvador), Oswald Hernandez Huerta (El Salvador), Eduardo Perez, Eduardo Villavicencio (El Salvador), Ramon Huerta (Puissant Sovereign), Ronny Patricio Aguilar, Pedro Moreno Monge (El Salvador), Francisco Saenz, Alfonso Rene Ortiz, Humberto Juarez, Victor Aquino.

SAN JUAN CONCLAVE, Puerto Rico

At the invitation of the Intendant General of the Division of Puerto Rico, KC William R. Miller, Very Illustrious Grand Senior General, arrived in Puerto Rico to install the officers of the Conclave on 9 March 2013.



Lto R are: KC Salvador Matos, Past Sovereign; KC José J. Mulinelli, Puissant Sovereign; KC William R. Miller, Very Illustrious Grand Senior General; KC José R. Lopez; Intendant General; K.C. Ramón Montañez, Past Intendant General.

BLACK HILLS CONCLAVE, Rapid City, SD

On 5 January 2013, officers were installed at the Conclave's Winter Assembly.



Lto R are: Puissant Sovereign, KC Michael Gilleland; Eminent Viceroy, KC George Bauder; Senior General, KC John Laughlin; Recorder/Treasurer, KC Jon Gonsor; Prelate, KC John "Jack" Hantz; Prefect, KC James Robinson; Standard Bearer, KC Stan Schwellenbach; Herald, KC Herb Cook; and, Sentinel, KC Shawn "Jake" Smith.

DIVISION OF IOWA

For the third time, Iowa has held a Divisional Assembly; this one was held in the Grand Lodge Building in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on 21 July 2013.



Front Row (L to R) KCs Greg Andersen, B.O. Bryngleson, Steve Elliott, Jay Cole Simser, Intendant General, Colby Withers, Shane Harshbarger, Don Stamy, P.I.G.

Back Row (L to R) KCs Wade Sheeler, Kevin Smith, Don Sardeson, Marion Reinhart, Kurt Hoffmann, George Gay, Ed Blinks, John Klaus, Rusty Hill, Don Mosier, P.S. St. Ignatius, Craig McFarland, George Harrison, P.S. St. Bartholomew, Randy Crouch, Gary Bergman, Charlie Smithson, David Dryer

UGIC OFFICERS VISIT TO PERTH, SCOTLAND

On 10 – 11 May 2013, KC William R. Miller, Very Illustrious Grand Senior General; and KC Fred Kleyn, Most Illustrious Past Grand Sovereign and Right Illustrious Grand Recorder, visited the Grand Imperial Council of Scotland where they had the opportunity to observe the conferral of the Knights of the Holy Sepulcher.



In the photo above, KC Fred Kleyn with Scotland Grand Sovereign Stewart Wood. Photo by KC Bill Miller!

Interestingly, the Grand Imperial Council of Scotland has two Conclaves in British Columbia. One of the Conclaves had nine members in attendance who conferred the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre for the assembled Knights Companions.

A BIT OF HISTORY

In 1972, our Centennial Year, one hundred years of history of the Red Cross of Constantine in the United States of America was celebrated. It is well to remember that although it is an Order of Chivalry with a long traditional history, it was in its youthful years when first introduced in 1869 in the Dominion of Canada. Our fraternity was actually established in London during the later part of the eighteenth century and is said to have been only “revived on a scale of increasing splendor” by certain Knights Companions in 1865.

The intent and influence of the Red Cross of Constantine in the United States followed closely on the example and the growth of the Order in England. It was perfect timing for the introduction of the Order to the Masonic world of America. The bitterness of the war between the states had diminished; the westward migration was creating Masonic Lodges across the nation; prominent Masonic brethren welcomed the distinctive quality offered by the Red Cross of Constantine. The Order grew with the nation.

The earliest known record of the Order in the United States is given as November 12, 1783, when the “Red Cross Degree” was conferred on a class of eight in Charlestown, SC. This is evidenced by a diploma emanating from St. Andrew’s Lodge, F & AM, of that city. The Red Cross Degree of the Knight Templar system was written by Thomas Smith Webb after 1797, so this record “supposed to refer to the Red Cross of Constantine.” There is also a certificate in the archives of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, dated August 29, 1783, indicating membership in the Red Cross of Constantine.

{to be continued in the February 2014 issue}

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL ASSEMBLY, RENO, NV

The Knights Companions at the Southwest Regional Assembly, held in Reno, NV, July 19-20, 2013 enjoyed the company of the Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign Burch Zehner, and his Lady Lynn. We were also privileged to have the presence of KC William R. Miller, Most Eminent Grand Viceroy and his Lady Maralyn; KC Stephen Doan, Illustrious Grand Junior General and his Lady Donna; KC Fred Kleyn, Right Illustrious Grand Recorder; and Most Worshipful William A. Garrard, Grand Master of Arizona and his Lady April. The Fellowship was most enjoyable during the entire Assembly and the ritual proficiency was outstanding.

The conferral teams were: Knight of the Red Cross of Constantine, San Diego Conclave; Knight of the Holy Sepulcher, Tucson Conclave; Knight of Saint St. John the Evangelist, St. Francis Conclave, San Francisco; College of Viceroys, Bonneville Conclave, Division of Utah and the Senate of Sovereigns, Division of Colorado. The Southwest Regional Assembly was hosted by Joan of Arc Conclave in Reno, NV at the Atlantis Hotel Resort, under the leadership of KC Gordon F. Wessell, Intendant General, Division of Nevada.

During the full day of Ritual Conferrals for the KCs, Lady Lynn and the other Ladies enjoyed a fine lunch, socializing in the hospitality suite, and visiting wherever they decided to go by contacting Atlantis Hotel Concierge for a limousine, compliments of the Hotel. (Of course, the Atlantis Hotel and Casino offers a wide variety of "Gaming" in case the Guests don't have enough to take home). At the completion of the Ritual Conferrals, KC Fred Kleyn, Grand Recorder presided over a Recorder and IG Seminar. KC Kleyn explained all the changes voted in during the annual meeting, annual reports, Recorder's Office operations and answered all questions. This Seminar certainly helps in the operation of the Conclaves. The next Southwest Regional Assembly will be held in Denver, CO, July 18-19, 2014.

Friday evening, the guests of the Southwest Regional enjoyed a cocktail hour, complete with cheese tasting, assorted gourmet crackers and drinks from the bar. The delicious, informal dinner gave everyone the opportunity to renew old friendships and make new friends. The luncheon Saturday was an excellent prime rib sandwich for the KCs at noon. The Saturday evening formal banquet was a delicious Filet Mignon with crab cakes appetizers.

The Southwest Regional Assembly sincerely appreciates the visit of the Grand Sovereign and his Lady Lynn and wish them much enjoyment and great health in all their endeavors. We were especially pleased to have the Grand Officers, their Ladies and our Distinguished Guests visit, and we hope all enjoyed our hospitality and fellowship of Nevada.

Contributed by: KC Gordon Wessel, IG Nevada; and, KC Bruce Pruitt, IG California Northern

142nd UGIC ANNUAL ASSEMBLY-DAYTON, OHIO
VENUE INFORMATION
June 12-June14, 2014 Holiday Inn Dayton/Fairborn

HOTEL HEADQUARTERS: Hotel Headquarters is the Holiday Inn Dayton/Fairborn located at 2800 Presidential Drive, Fairborn, Ohio 45324. Phone: 937-426-7800. The newly renovated Hotel offers fresh designs, latest technology and personalized services. The Hotel offers a heated indoor pool, wireless internet in rooms, and a health and fitness center. McKenna's Grille and Lounge open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The hotel is convenient to downtown Dayton and the United States Air Force Museum. Local shopping includes The Mall at Fairfield Commons, and The Greene's Town Center.

GRAND ASSEMBLY FRIDAY EVENT AND TOUR: The Friday tour will be to the National Museum of the United States Air Force located at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. The Museum is the world's largest and oldest aviation museum with more than 360 aircraft and missiles on display, including the Presidential aircraft and the pioneers of flight. The Museum contains many rare aircraft of historical or technological importance as well as memorabilia and artifacts relating to the history and development of aviation dating from 1901 to the present. Following the tour we will be transported to the Wright Patterson Air Force Base Officer's Club for our evening meal. We will not return to the hotel after the tour. Arrangements to enter the Base for the meal must be made in advance and entrance will be restricted to the Tour Buses. To enter the base **Photo identification will be required, i.e. Driver's license, passport.** Non US citizens must have their passport. For everyone attending the dinner, a photocopy of the identification must be sent with the registration form when registering for the assembly. All copies must be legible, and include first and last name. Non US citizens must send a photocopy of their passport. The Officer's Club has a dress code, see attire below. Additional information may be obtained at; www.nationalmuseum.af.mil

GRAND ASSEMBLY SATURDAY EVENT AND TOUR: The Saturday tour will be to the Carillon Historical Park. This is a 65 acre park containing buildings and exhibits pertaining to the history of Dayton, Ohio from 1796 to present, also exhibits including the original 1905 Wright Flyer III, an indoor Carousel, the story of GM, Delphi, and Frigidaire, McCall Magazine, and an interactive display of Cash Registers, and many more interesting displays. Buses will transport us to this location and we will enjoy a lunch in the beautiful wooded picnic area. Saturday attire will be casual. Additional information may be obtained at; www.Carillonpark.org

DAYTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT: Located approximately 20 miles from the hotel. Our Committee will be providing shuttle service to and from the hotel and the Dayton International Airport. Please provide all information with registration to help avoid delays and long waits.

ATTIRE FOR MEN AND LADIES: All Assembly meetings will be **coat and tie with jewel.** Friday tour and dinner will be **Business casual;** Men-button down collar or polo shirt and slacks, women-Capri's or slacks; no shorts . Saturday tour will be casual. The Saturday Banquet **is formal; White Dinner Jacket or Black Tux for Men with jewel and sash,** long or cocktail dress for the Ladies.

REGISTRATION: Will begin on Thursday at 1:00 PM in Hotel lobby.

UNITED GRAND IMPERIAL COUNCIL RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE
142ND ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

June 12-14, 2014

Holiday Inn

2800 Presidential Drive, Fairborn, Ohio 45324

(937) 426-7800 or Fax (937) 426-1284

\$115 + tax single or double occupancy.

**Room reservations must be made before May 20th, 2014 to receive
"UGIC Red Cross Constantine " discounted rate**

Registration Fee \$160.00 per person

Name _____ Lady's Name if attending _____

First and Last

First and Last

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Name & Location of Conclave _____

Office _____ National Office _____

National Office in Other Masonic Body _____

Have you made your reservations with the Hotel? YES NO

I (we) are Flying Air Line - _____ Flight # _____

I (we) will arrive on _____ I (we) will depart on _____
(DATE) (TIME) (DATE) (TIME)

Registration Fee of \$160.00 Per Person includes Lunch Friday & Saturday; Dinner Thursday, Friday & Saturday plus the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force and the Carillon Historical Park tours.

Number _____ @(\$160.00) each \$ _____

Knight Comp Lady

- | | | |
|-----|-----|--|
| [] | [] | Will attend the Thursday Evening Dinner Reception, June 12 th |
| [] | [] | Will attend the Friday Men's and Ladies Lunch, June 13 th |
| [] | [] | Will attend the Friday Air Force Museum Tour/Dinner, June 13 th |
| [] | [] | Will attend the Saturday Men's/Ladies Carillon Park Tour/Lunch June 14 th |
| [] | [] | Will attend the Saturday Grand Banquet, June 14 th |

(Note) Photo I.D. necessary for admission to AF Base for everyone attending. Copy of photo I.D. must be submitted with Registration form, i.e. Drivers License, Passport. Non US citizens must submit a photocopy of their passport.

Special Dietary Needs _____

Wheel Chair _____

Make Checks Payable To:

"142nd Annual Conclave"

Mail Check and Registration To:

Martin R. Trent

(937) 864-5603

4267 South Xenia Drive

standrews619@yahoo.com

Enon, OH 45323-1648

This completed form, photocopy of ID and your check must be received by May 10, 2014

NO REFUNDS AFTER MAY 17, 2014

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