

DISPATCHES FROM HEADQUARTERS

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Musings of our Supreme Grand Master

Greetings Brother Knights

As we embark on another New Year of fraternal relations in this great Christian Organization, let us do so with the belief that we can "make a difference" in each of our areas of responsibility, remembering the words of the famous Helen Keller who said "Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much".

I'd like to share with you an article from one of my US Magazines that described the culture of a company called JetSuite, which outlined certain basic principles to be LIVED not ESPOUSED, as follows, and which I feel have absolute merit and application to all of us in this blessed fraternity:

"Serve from the heart, love what you do, improve something today, deliver on commitments, have fun, ask for help, make mistakes valuable."

My official visits to Ontario as outlined in the Fall Dispatches were very impressive and pleasant experiences. One of the highlights was my visit, together with the Grand Chancellor to Temiskaming Preceptory No. 60 for their 100th Anniversary Celebration. The ceremony was well conducted to the credit of the membership. I also experienced first-hand the vast travel distances between Hailebury and Windsor and points in between, over a two-week period, and the considerable travel burden we necessarily placed on the Provincial Grand Prior of Algoma District, presently, R.Em.Kt. Kian Jensen, who takes his duties in his stride and to whom I am particularly thankful for the outstanding and valuable assistance he provided to me during my visits to his District. Temiskaming Preceptory has now relocat-

ed to the Golden Beaver Lodge Building at Timmins, Ontario and we wish them every success as they settle into their new quarters.

I also express my sincere thanks to the remaining Ontario Provincial Grand Priors all of whom accompanied me on my visits to their Districts.

The Grand Executive meeting will be held in Montreal in April and will include visits to the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec and the McLeod Moore Annual Pilgrimage to his grave-site in Mount Royal Cemetery, Montreal. Following these events, my wife Anita and I will travel to Scotland as guests of the Great Priory of Scotland, for the celebration of the enthronement of their new Grand Master.

Yours in the Bonds of our Order
M.Em.Kt. G.E. (Gerry) Tetzloff, G.C.T.

Supreme Grand Master's Spring Schedule

- April 24th Quebec District at Richard Coeur de Lion No. 7
- April 25th Grand Executive Meeting Vaudreuil, QC
- April 26th Grand Chapter RAM of Quebec, Montreal, QC
- April 27th W. J. B. MacLeod Moore Memorial, Montreal,
- May 3rd Great Priory of Scotland, Edinburgh, Scotland
- May 22nd Newfoundland Labrador District, Corner Brook,
- May 23rd Grand Council R&SM Eastern, Corner Brook, NL
- May 24th Grand Chapter RAM of Newfoundland, Cornerbrook, NB
- May 27th NB District at St. John DeMolay No. 3A Saint John, NB
- May 28th Nova Scotia/PEI District at Antiquity No. 5 Halifax, NS

Message from the Grand Chaplain Right Eminent Knight

Dr Earle Sharam



When you receive this issue of the “Dispatches”, many Churches will be approaching Transfiguration Sunday—March 2 this year—and the start of Lent. In worship that Sunday, we will hear the story of God calling Moses up the mountain (Exodus 24), and of the appearance of Jesus in glory at the top of Mount Hermon (Matthew 17:1-9).

Transfiguration Sunday always reminds me that there are two key dimensions to the life of faith: the mountaintop of spiritual experience and the valley of compassionate service. The mountain, where we encounter God, where we feel our souls refreshed, where we find new motivation and meaning. The valley, where we live our lives day by day, where we reach out to those who are hurting, where we seek to be the hands of God at work in our communities. Two dimensions, and we live in both.

First, the mountain... To ascend the mountain of the experience of God is to be aware of both Creation and its Creator. It is to be aware of the grandeur and majesty of life. It is to experience incredible joy at the privilege of being part of God’s grand scheme of creation.

Children know that kind of exhilaration instinctively. The story was circulating over the Internet a while ago of a class of elementary school students who were studying geography. At the end of the semester they were asked to list what they considered to be the Seven Wonders of the World. Their top choices were: Egypt’s Great Pyramid, the Taj Mahal, the Grand Canyon, the Panama Canal, the Empire State Building, St Peter’s Basilica, and the Great Wall of China.

Whilst tallying the votes, the teacher noticed that one little girl had not handed in her paper. She approached the student and asked if she was having problems with her list. “Yes,” said the girl, “I couldn’t make up my mind because there were so many.” The teacher replied, “Tell us what you have—perhaps we can help.” Reluctantly, the little girl stood up and began to read her list. “I think the Seven Wonders of the World are: to see and to hear, to touch and to taste, to feel and to laugh and to love.” I doubt that you or I could make a better list than that one!

There is a hunger within human hearts to live on the mountaintop of spiritual experience. At the end of World War I, there was a service of thanksgiving in Royal Albert Hall in London. Seated on the platform were many digni-

taries, amongst them The Revd Dr (and Brother) Joseph Fort Newton and the Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw. One of the hymns chosen was Isaac Watt’s beautiful “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”. After they finished, Shaw, who was deeply moved by the chorus of thousands, leaned over to Newton and said, “I’d rather have written that one hymn than all my silly plays together.” For a moment George Bernard Shaw got a glimpse of the mountain. His commitment to rationalism would not allow him to climb it, perhaps, but he had seen that it was there. Pity the person who never ascends that mountain of deep spiritual experience, who never glimpses the glory of God.

Pity even more, however, the person who longs for that experience of the mountaintop, but who then refuses to return to the valley of service and compassion. Some people have a mountaintop experience and they exclaim, “This is it!” They think they have captured the essence of faith in a bottle that they can slip into their pocket and take back home with them. Later they may open the bottle—say, at Easter or Christmas Eve—but they are almost certain to find it empty, the experience fading into the mists of pleasant and distant memory.

If we have substituted a momentary experience for a lifetime of compassionate service, it might be better if we had never ascended the mountain at all! The mountaintop itself is not enough. The proof of an authentic encounter with God is always a changed life.

In 2001, Allison Levine led the first all-woman team to climb Mount Everest. The feat was all the more remarkable because for much of her life, Levine was unable to endure any physical challenges at all. Born with a serious heart defect, she was never able to run or engage in sports with other children her age. Any exertion at all could cause her heart to jump out of its regular rhythm. At age 30, she had surgery to repair her heart defect. Afterwards, she became a dedicated athlete.

Allison Levine agreed to lead the expedition to the top of Everest on one condition: the climb would be to raise money for charity, including the building of girls’ schools in Nepal. She did not want to climb Everest for either her own or the team’s glory; she wanted the team to give back something to those less fortunate. As Levine said, “What’s the point of taking risks on the mountain if nothing changes on the earth below?”

I could not have said it better. What’s the use climbing mountains if we’re exactly the same when we come down as we were when we went up? An authentic mountaintop experience with God leaves us changed. It is an experience that gets the glare of the world out of our eyes so that we can see the world as God sees it. And the world as God sees it is a world full of people who need your love, your hope and your faith. They may live next door. They may

work in the office with you. You may pass them on the road as you drive home. And so God calls us to leave the mountaintop where we have experienced such joy to return to the valley of service, to be the incarnation of God's love in service to the world.

I pray that you will have experiences that bring you closer to God than you have ever been. That would be wonderful—and essential. I also pray those experiences will strengthen you to share the wondrous and essential gift that you are with the world in which you live.

Dr Earle Sharam

Principal and Dean, St Stephen's College University of Alberta



Statute R6.10.1:- All other Knights may wear the Red Cross of the Order, viz: a Greek cross (PATEE) spread out at the extremities, worn on the left breast attached to the ribbon of the order.

(actual overall height is 4 inches)
Available for purchase from your Registrar

You are a volunteer in your Lodge, Chapter, Council or Preceptory until you are elected by the members as an officer. Now you have become the servant of the members and must strive to bring honour to your office and to your-self.

131st ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

August 15th to 17th, 2014
Hilton Toronto Airport Hotel
Mississauga, Ontario

General Chairman R.Em.Kt. David Hardie

Registration R.Em.Kt. George Fairbairn
803 158 Ontario St., St. Catharines ON L2R 5K6
(905) 397-5667 Voice (705) 526-9431 Fax
qfairbairn49@gmail.com

Registration Forms also available from your Registrar
or at
www.knightstemplar.ca
on the "Assemblies" page

Registrations not accepted after July 25, 2014

WestJet is offering delegates to the 131st Annual Assembly a discount of 10% off their best available fare at the time of booking (excluding seat sales and web fares). The discount is available into and/or out of Toronto from August 8th to 24th. To book using discount code **CC7182**, call the WestJet Groups Department at 1-888-493-7853 from 0700 to 1730 (MST) Monday to Friday

The Cost of Mailing the Summons

Canada Post has announced that the cost of mailing a letter will rise to 85 cents at the end of March. Add H.S.T., and the amount becomes 96 cents. If you add to that the envelope, label, paper and printing, a member's mailed Summons will now cost your Preceptory about \$1.20 or more seven or more times a year. Now would be a good time for all members who receive their summons through the regular mail to give very serious thought to using email, if possible. Send a message to the Registrar, from your email address, requesting that he send your summons by email. Our Grand Lodges and Sovereign Great Priory are not only agreeable to the summons being emailed, they are actually promoting it as a way to drastically reduce the costs and overhead of a Lodge or Preceptory. You will add greatly to the happiness of your Treasurer!

For any Preceptory, not meeting their annual operating expenses, particularly those with Annual Dues less than \$50.00, this increase in expenses should promptly motivate a thorough review.

Statute 6.7.9:- All summonses whether for regular, emergent or other assemblies, must be either sent out in sealed envelopes or delivered by email to members who have consented to receive them in electronic format. All envelopes used by a Preceptory shall carry the return address of the Registrar.

DID YOU KNOW

March 18th marks the 700th Anniversary of the of the burning of Jacques de Molay, the last Grand Master of the Knights Templar, by Phillip King of France.

FILING DATES

Must be in the Chancery on or before:

**January 31st. ANNUAL RETURNS
REGISTRAR'S ANNUAL REPORTS PARTS 1 & 2**

**Following the Installation of Officers
RETURN of OFFICERS
RETURN of PRECEPTORS**

**March 31st. NOMINATIONS
for SGP Elected or Appointed Office
excepting Grand Council and PGPs**

**May 15th. NOMINATIONS
Provincial Grand Priors — Grand Council
District Grand Standard Bearers
Order of Merit — KCT**

Grand Imperial Conclave of Canada
79th Annual Assembly - August 13 - August 14, 2014
Hilton Toronto Airport 5875 Airport Road, Mississauga ON

Sovereign Great Priory of Canada
131st Annual Assembly - August 15 - August 17, 2014
Hilton Toronto Airport 5875 Airport Road, Mississauga ON

Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Ladies Name: _____ if attending. Email: _____ Tel: _____ Arriving via: AIR _____ CAR _____

Arrival Date: _____ Airline _____ Flight _____ Time _____
Depart Date: _____ Airline _____ Flight _____ Time _____

Attending: YES ___ NO ___ Attending: YES ___ NO ___

Conclave: _____ No.: _____ Rank: _____ Preceptory: _____ No.: _____ Rank: _____

Present Office: _____ Present Office: _____

Registration (KNIGHTS COMPANION) \$150.00
includes fees, Wednesday Get Acquainted, Luncheon and Thursday Grand Banquet.
(LADIES) \$125.00
includes Get Acquainted, Ladies Program, Luncheon & Thursday Banquet.

Registration (ALL EVENTS) (SIR KNIGHTS) \$150.00
includes fees, Friday Meet & Greet, Luncheon and Saturday Grand Banquet
(LADIES) \$125.00
includes Meet & Greet, Ladies Program, Luncheon, & Saturday Banquet.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Registration (THURSDAY ONLY) \$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday's "Get Acquainted" \$35.00 each
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thursday Men's Luncheon Ticket \$35.00 each
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lady's Program and Luncheon (Thursday) tickets 60.00 each
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Banquet Tickets \$65.00 each.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Registration (SATURDAY ONLY) \$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday's "Meet & Greet" \$35.00 each
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday Men's Luncheon Ticket \$35.00 each
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lady's Program and Luncheon (Saturday) tickets 60.00 each
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Banquet Tickets \$65.00 each.

Grand Sovereign's Banquet (Thursday) state choice & number of meals

Number of meals: Beef ___ Chicken ___ Fish ___

Grand Master's Banquet (Saturday) state choice & number of meals

Number of meals: Beef ___ Chicken ___ Fish ___

Food Special Needs Only: _____

Food Special Needs Only: _____

Please make cheque for Registration (No Post-dated cheques or Credit Cards please) payable to: "Annual Assembly 2014"

Hotel Reservations must be made through the Registration Committee. A deposit of one night or Credit Card Guarantee is required.

Hotel Reservation below ___ or included with, (Name): _____ or I will not be staying in the Hotel (Signature): _____

Please complete the form below. Room Rates \$130.00, plus applicable taxes per night, single or double occupancy, includes breakfast and free parking.

Deposit \$ _____ Credit Card: Visa _____ Amex _____ MasterCard _____ Other _____

Card Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Name on Card: _____ Signature: _____

Room Type: Single _____ Double _____ Suite _____ extra for suite (Note: Non smoking hotel)

Hotel Special Needs Only! (if applicable): _____

Send forms to: **George Fairbairn 803-158 Ontario St., St. Catharines ON L2R 5K6 (905) 397-5667 g.fairbairn49@gmail.com**
Registrations not accepted after July 25, 2014