

The Long Range Plan

The Swords of Progress: A Vision for the Future
2020-2025

(Initially Instituted in 2018)

Knights Templar Motto

Non nobis, Domine, non nobis, sed nomini tuo da gloriam!

Not unto us, o Lord, not unto us, but unto your name great glory!

Long Range Planning Committee

Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, Chairman

Members

Eminent Grand Generalissimo

Eminent Grand Captain General

Eminent Grand Senior Warden

Eminent Grand Junior Warden

Eminent Grand Standard Bearer

Eminent Grand Sword Bearer

Eminent Grand Warder

S. K. Adam Lee Buffington

S. K. Coyt David Hargus, PC

Introduction

At the 67th Triennium, leaders of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar professed they operate on Long Range Plans and those plans are sound for the 2015-2018 Chivalric period. They will strive to make Templary the most prestigious Concordant Body for which one may petition membership. To do that Grand Encampment has four Goals:

Maintain its leadership development program

Improve ritual portrayal

Improve Public and Masonic awareness

Develop pride within our Order

At the 194th Stated Conclave of Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Virginia, the *Committee on Long Range Planning* reported that over the last several years the Committee had made several suggestions pertaining to the state of Templar Masonry in Virginia, many of which have not been implemented or implemented only partially. A review of past Committee reports and long-range planning efforts showed the goals, and their discussions, have been found in various District Deputy Grand Commander Manuals or Grand Commander Program Objectives. While there were differences from year to year as to what the goals and objections are, there was some agreement as well.

But, Grand Commandery and its Constituent Commanderies continue to experience dramatic loss of membership, deficient ritualistic proficiencies, and disappointing attendance. Accordingly, this plan will bring continuity and unity to Grand Commandery and its Constituent Commanderies' planning progress.

Long Range Planning is critical to Grand Commandery and its Constituent Commanderies' success. Simply put, planning provides a road map that describes how the Grand Commandery executes its Vision, Mission, Goals and Objectives, and sets measures of effectiveness. It is a tool to help Grand Commandery and its Constituent Commanderies better focus on programs, set realistic goals and objectives, identify current strengths and weaknesses relative to major competitors, and to effectively use resources and time.

Written plans provide motivation, streamline communications, and keep Grand Commandery of Virginia and its Constituent Commanderies moving in the right direction. It develops a sense of ownership among the Sir Knights and provides a base from which progress can be measured and establishes a mechanism for informed change when needed.

Vision

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Virginia is a Christian-oriented fraternal organization beholden to the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States of America, committed to attracting and retaining Christian Masons of high quality, who strive for self-improvement and the opportunity to make a positive difference in Templar Masonry and their community.

Mission

As Knight Templars, we aim to assist in defending the Christian faith and to advance Christian principals in all that we do. To emulate the selfless principals of our ancient forbearers, and to provide a vehicle for Christian Freemasons to actively engage in pursuing charities by: Enabling research - that others may see and support - that others may learn and have opportunities - that others may experience the Holy Land. Thus, by fraternal friendship and various crafts of self-enlightenment, we can pursue a better life to aid and assist others.

Core Values

Humanity – Openness – Integrity – Courage – Creativity – Excellence

[Common beliefs and philosophy shared among Knights Templar of Virginia]

Humanity – As a community we treat one another with dignity and mutual respect at all times no matter what our views and our positions.

Openness – We will strive to communicate openly and candidly with one another and to share information enabling us to achieve our objectives within the Chivalric Craft. Integrity – We will be ethical, responsible, and consistent with our commitment; we are willing to be held accountable for our actions.

Courage – We have the strength of character, conviction of belief to always do what is right, and to make the required decisions to secure the future of Grand Commandery and its Constitution Commanderies.

Creativity – We will look for new and creative ways to approach and resolve the issues and challenges that the Grand Commandery and its Constituent Commanderies face.

Excellence – We will always attempt to exceed expectations and perform at the very highest levels of quality. We will strive to evaluate the outcomes of our activities in terms of their quality, substance and impact.

Swords of Progress (Strategic Themes)

Governance - Membership Enhancement - Templar Leadership & Education

Ritualistic Improvement - Chivalric Philanthropies – Religious Observance

Support Masonic Youth - Promote York Rite Unity – Bicentennial Support

The Swords of Progress were derived to meet the needs of Grand Commandery of Virginia and Constituent Commanderies and consist of five primary interrelated tasks:

- ◆ Deciding what business processes to use in setting the boundaries, direction, and support in making its needs. In effect, infusing its vision and mission with a sense of purpose, providing long-term direction, and establishing a clear mission to be accomplished.
- ◆ Converting Grand Commandery's vision and mission into measurable objectives and performance targets.
- ◆ Crafting a strategy to achieve the desired results.
- ◆ Implementing and executing the chosen strategy efficiently and effectively.
- ◆ Evaluating performance, reviewing new developments, and initiating corrective adjustments in long-term direction, objectives, strategy, or implementing in light of actual experience, changing conditions, new ideas, and new opportunities.

Swords of Progress

Long Range Goals & Objectives/Accompanying Actions

In the same way each Sir Knight wields his sword to defend innocent maidens, destitute widows, helpless orphans, and the Christian Religion, we need to wield our swords to develop several strategic areas to grow and improve as an organization, attract and retain Christian Masons, and achieve our mission goals. Each Sword of Progress is essential to the future of Templar Masonry in Virginia and has broad long-range goals, objectives, and measurable short-range actions.

Sword of Progress Governance

Long Range Goal – Enhance the Grand Commandery of Virginia operational effectiveness at all levels.

“The Preamble of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A. reads-“We, the Knights Templar of the United States, in order to secure unity and better government and to increase the prosperity and influence of Templary, which is declared to comprise the Orders of Christian Knighthood known as Red Cross, Knight of Malta and Knight Templar, do ordain and establish this Constitution.” Thus, by their own enactment, Knights Templar created their own controlling government. Knights Templar is governed in all of their activities: first by the Constitution, Statutes and Rituals of the Grand Encampment, and by the Orders and Decisions of the Grand Master; second, by the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of their Grand Commandery, and by the orders and decisions of the Grand Commander; third, by the By-Laws of the Commandery of which they are members, and by the orders of the Commander. Between Triennial Conclaves, exclusive power is given to the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment to enforce the laws; to interpret the laws when necessary; to maintain a watchful supervision over all Commanderies, Grand, Constituent and Subordinate; to promote the general welfare of the Order and a host of other powers and duties.” (Charting the Course, Sir Knight Wilber M. Brucher, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A., 1965, p 6)

Objectives:

- Identify and evaluate how the Grand Commandery can be more pro-active.
- Shape an effective concept of governance based on sound management principals and promotes accountability, participation, predictability, and transparency.
- Identify what leadership, administrative and financial skills Grand Line Officers need to promote a more competent, effective and pro-active leadership.
- Encourage increased effectiveness and productivity of Grand Commandery’s Standing and Special Committees and promote awareness and confidence in their integrity, competence and professionalism.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the Grand Commandery in responding to changes and develop the means to respond to new opportunities.

- Assess the talents of individual Sir Knights and develop a database of a pool of resources, to be placed in strategic leadership positions /roles.
- Assess and alter, if necessary, the structure of Grand Commandery and, where needed, to ensure an efficient implantation of the Vision Statement and Swords of Progress.
- Evaluate how to better utilize district visits, meetings, and schools.
- Build relationships with other Masonic associations and community organizations to expand Grand Commandery's influence in social and fraternal matters.

Actions:

*** Chivalric Organization and Management**

- Evaluate the effectiveness of Grand Commandery organization and processes to be responsive to positive changes and new opportunities.
 - Develop roles and responsibilities for each elected and appointed Grand Commandery officer.
 - Develop and maintain a leadership program to train and enhance the skills of the Grand Commandery Elected Line Officers.
 - Review the composition of committees to ensure that the members have the knowledge, skills, and abilities to be effective.
 - Review and develop an efficient and motivating district meeting.
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- Financial
 - Leverage financial management information for strategic planning and budgeting activities for Grand Commandery and its Constituent Commanderies.
 - Adopt comprehensive portfolio and investment planning and provide a financial process to ensure the stability and long-term success of the Grand Commandery.
 - Shape the Grand Commandery's project management, ensuring effective monitoring practices are in place, ensuring delivery is on time and on budget, and that what is delivered meets Grand Commandery's needs.
 - Continue to place emphasis on increasing operating funds through the Baldwin-Brown Program.
 - Encourage Sir Knight to remember the Grand Commandery in their wills.

*** Communications**

- Encourage Constituent Commanderies to cultivate external communications among the family and be a leading source of information and knowledge on Templar subjects.
- Enhance internal communications among Grand Commandery and its Constituent Commandery members.
- Help Freemasonry and Constituent Commandery communities.
- Build a positive public image of Templar Freemasonry, Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Virginia, and the Constituent Commanderies.

*** Technology**

- Expand Grand Commandery data base systems to allow easier access by Constituent Commanderies.
- Create interactive forms for Grand Commandery reports.
- Create web hosting through the Grand Commandery Office and provide a template for all Virginia Constituent Commanderies.
- Develop interactive Chivalric educational programs.

* Public Relations

- Develop and publish a *Citizenship and Public Affairs Committee* Long Range Public Relations Program.
- Develop and publish a comprehensive training program, including how to write press releases, on media available to the Constituent Commanderies, and ways to publicize events.
- Establish a Grand Commandery of Virginia Community Builder Award to recognize individuals or organizations to enhance a positive image of Templary Freemasonry.
- Encourage Constituent Commanderies to participate in parades, fairs/festivals, and youth sports team sponsorships, etc.
- Submit positive examples of public relations successes for publishing on Grand Commandery website and in various Masonic publications.
- Develop and maintain an educational e-newsletter regarding the history, philosophy, values, events, and other related items on Templar Masonry.
- Develop and implement an award program for Virginia’s Masonic Youth organizations.

Sword of Progress Membership Enhancement

Long Range Goal – The 3’s of an effective Membership Enhancement Program are: *Recruitment, Recognition and Retention.*

The honor and prestige of Templar Masonry emanates from its high standards of morality, its moral teachings, the fact that those teachings are exemplified in the lives of men, who not only believed in them, but demonstrate them in their lives, morally and socially. It should be the goal of every Knight Templar to spread the good news of Templar Masonry and to encourage his Brothers in the Symbolic Lodges and Companions in the Capitular Chapters to enlist

under our Banner. It is also incumbent upon us to reach out to the Sir Knights who no longer attend our conclaves, or who have allowed their membership to lapse. And lastly, and perhaps most importantly, we need to keep them attending by offering more than the “same old stuff.”

“*Audentes Fortnae Juvat*,” “Fortune Favors the Bold.” Project an image of vibrancy, vitality and vigor, in and out of our Asylums. Make Templar Masonry a meaningful Christian Order that has the respect and admiration of the public at large and our non-Templar Masons and Companions in particular. The sublime principles and the foundation of strong Christian values make this Magnanimous Order stand for something of incredible value.

In an article by Julie Barnard, Customer Services Manager at Epping Forest District Council, Chelmsford UK, “...communication is made up of 7% words, 38% how those words are spoken, and 55% non-verbal

cues. To communicate well with another person you need to account for 100% -- everything that is going on.” In other words, good communication is needed for our Commanderies to be successful and the most critical element of good communications is being present, being fully aware of what is going on in the Asylums, District events, and at Grand Commandery. Being present will make all other elements of good communications possible.

Objectives:

- The Grand Commandery of Virginia and its Constituent Commanderies must take the business of Templar Masonry seriously and maintain the high standard.
- ***Solicitation is not only allowed, it is encouraged!***
- Emphasize the benefits of joining a Commandery of Knights Templar.
- Each Sir Knight must take a personal responsibility to preserve Templar Masonry in Virginia.
- Expanding membership is the preeminent goal of every Sir Knight – just stemming the flow of losses is not acceptable.
- Each Constituent Commandery should institute an Amnesty Program and sell the benefits of restoring Templar membership.
- Ascertain why Fraters are not attending Templar conclaves and events – make meetings more interesting and important to them.
- Every Constituent Commandery must work toward retaining our current members as well as newly created Sir Knights.

Actions:

* Recruitment

- Recruiting is the lifeline of every Commander. Without a dynamic membership base, we cannot reach the heights our Valiant and Magnanimous Order so richly deserves.
- Every Sir Knight must be visible, be a knowledgeable Mason, and above all, be positive, be proud to be a Knight Templar.
- Every Sir Knight should attend conferrals of Degrees in their Symbolic Lodge and Royal Arch Chapters.
- Always have at least two Royal Arch and Commandery petitions with you.
- Volunteer to teach catechisms and otherwise mentor newly raised Master Masons.
- Appoint ambassadors to the Symbolic Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, and Youth Organizations.
- Every Sir Knight should work to achieve a Grand Commandery *Membership Cordon Award*.

* Recognition

- Recognize our Sir Knights that receive awards at our monthly Conclaves.
- Make a concerted effort to learn both the recipients' name and the particulars of the award. Everyone loves to hear their names, so make sure that it is pronounced correctly.
- Ensure that these individuals attend your next Conclave and have the Commander, or a Grand Line Officer make a presentation to him at the head of the Commandery.
- Publicize and promote the awards offered by Grand Commandery of Virginia and the Grand Encampment and encourage Sir Knights to work to achieve the same.

* Retention

- Stress Fraters’ membership in a Commandery of Knights Templar, as well as to those newly created Sir Knights – to the Commandery and to the members.
- Ascertain why Fraters are not attending templar conclaves and events – solicit their thoughts on how to make the Commandery more interesting and important to them
- Offer to provide transportation.
- Stress the importance of their attendance and their participation. Make them feel valuable and make them feel missed!
- Declare an amnesty for Sir Knights who have been suspended for non-payment of dues and encourage their reinstatement.
- Everyone should have an opportunity to participate in Commandery activities – consider appointing both new and old members to serve one or more of the various committees vital to the Commandery’s future.
- Every Sir Knight should have an opportunity to participate in the Orders of Knighthood.
- Be personally involved in Templar activities
- Be visible in uniform, set the example, be positive, be proud to be a Knight Templar – others will want to be identified with our “team.”
- Attend York Rite Masonic events and activities.
- Make use of e-mail, trestle boards, and telephone trees to keep the Commandery’s members, Symbolic Lodges, and Royal Arch Chapters up to date on Templar Masonry events and activities.
- We can turn the tide of NPD’s with a friendly call or visit, informing the member of the importance of his remaining with the York Rite.

Sword of Progress Templar Leadership & Education

Long Range Goal – Templar Leadership & Education requires a sense of Christian Dedication, a positive attitude, proper work-ethic, and imagination.

“Management is doing things right; leadership is doing the right things. Management is efficiency in climbing the ladder of success; leadership determines whether the ladder is leading against the right wall.”
(The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, p 101, Stephen R. Covey)

To strengthen Templar organizations and begin to enact changes necessary to improve our Commanderies—we need to focus more on ***Templar Leadership***.

Objectives:

- Promote Chivalric Leadership and Education. There can be no dedication without education (*The Search for Leadership*, Allen E. Roberts).

Actions:

- Revive regional leadership and education conferences.
- Promote the Grand Commandery Leadership Correspondence Course – every Sir Knight needs to participate therein.

- Promote the Grand Encampment High Potential Leadership Program/Project – every Grand Line Officer and Constitution Commandery Officer needs to participate therein.
- Expand the Leadership and Education Committee and develop educational programs for Constituent Commanderies and education programs that can be given at Symbolic Lodges and Royal Arch Chapters.
- Develop and publish a Grand Commandery Guide Book for District Deputy Grand Commanders and Constituent Commandery Officers.
- Chivalric Education needs to stress;
 - Planning and preparation for Commanders
 - Purpose of Templary
 - Protocol
 - Duties and Responsibilities
 - Know the Law
 - Effective Communication
 - Templar Awards
 - Chivalric Philanthropies
 - Ways to improve attendance and increase interest

Sword of Progress Ritualistic Improvement

Long Range Goal – Ritualistic Improvement starts with a fully integrated Ritual Team.

The Orders of Knighthood contain some of the most beautiful and impressive ceremonies in Freemasonry. Accordingly, the Orders should always to be conferred in a dignified and impressive manner. Any less is not only to cheat our petitioners, but to fail miserably in our duty.

Ritual does not need to be mediocre; anyone can do ritual well—it isn't hard. It's mostly a matter of learning the words and the floor work. It doesn't demand a lot of time, or any particular talent, but it does require practice; be prepared and sincere. Do not just parrot the words: learn the names and background of the characters, research the settings and places, and understand the story and its teachings.

Objectives:

- Promote ritualistic proficiency.

Actions:

- Every Sir Knight should work to achieve a Grand Commandery *Ritualistic Proficiency Award*.
- District Instructors should conduct a District-wide School quarterly.
- Open Conclaves in Full Form.
- All Sir Knights should attend an Area Knight Templar School.
- Every Constituent Commandery should have a Director of Work.
- Keep Templar regalia and paraphernalia ready and in good order.
- Improve sword proficiency and floor work.
- Schedule practices before conferring the Orders.

Sword of Progress Chivalric Philanthropies

Long Range Goal – Maintain a strong commitment to Chivalric Philanthropies.

The Grand Commandery supports three (3) primary philanthropies: the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund, and the Knights Templar Educational Foundation.

- * The Knight Templar Eye Foundation (KTEF) is one of the largest Masonic charities, and probably the best managed. Supported by member donations and investment income, the KTEF provides research grants to institutions and practitioners performing research in the treatment and prevention of diseases of the eye.
- * The Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund enables the Grand Commandery to send ministers to the Holy Land. Its purpose is to enable Christian ministers, who are young in their ministry, to walk where Jesus walked, and to experience all that the Holy Land can offer. It is an inspirational experience to all who have participated, and Sir Knights are encouraged to propose their ministers for consideration.
- * The Knight Templar Education Foundation provides scholarships and grants to deserving students.

Objectives:

- Promote Chivalric Philanthropies.
- Double the number of eligible ministers the Grand Commandery sends to the Holy Land Pilgrimage (4 versus 2).

Actions:

- **Actively solicit the Sir Knights to contribute to the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund and seek 100% participation by each Commandery and each Sir Knight.**
- **Actively solicit the Sir Knights to contribute to the Knight Templar Eye Foundation and seek 100% participation in each Commandery and each Sir Knight.**
- **Actively solicit the Sir Knights to contribute to the Knight Templar Education Foundation and seek 100% participation by each Commandery and each Sir Knight.**
- **Every Sir Knight should work to achieve a Grand Commandery *Knight of Siloam Award*.**
- **Sponsor and participate in a fund-raising project to support our charitable endeavors.**
- **Recommend eligible Christian ministers to participate in the Holy Land Pilgrimage.**

Sword of Progress Religious Observance

Long Range Goal – Templary is Christian to the core—and we must never forget this fact for one instant.

“The characteristic purpose and the motivating dynamic of a Knight Templar, and of this Order, is a vigorous support of the Christian religion. Not only is an expressive program in this area, central to the whole program of Templary, but, together with the essentials of leadership and growth, all other programs related to it. .” (Charting the Course, Sir Knight Wilber M. Brucher, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the U.S.A., 1965, p 7)

Objectives:

- To promote a devotion program and work with a local church.
- Bring a religious emphasis to every Conclave.
- Make a public appearance by church attendance in full Templar uniform.
- Assist in the Christian burial of our fallen Templars, when requested, or to conduct some memorial service.
- Close relations should be maintained with local ministers.
- Work with other organizations emphasizing Christian activities.

Actions:

- Every elected and appointed Grand Line Officer and District Deputy Grand Commander must attend the Grand Encampment East Coast Easter Sunrise Ceremonies.
- Each Commandery must have one or more representatives at the Grand Encampment East Coast Easter Sunrise Ceremonies.
- Every elected and appointed Grand Line Officer and District Deputy Grand Commander must attend the Religious Freedom Day Parade in Fredericksburg Virginia.
- Each Commandery must have one or more representatives at the Religious Freedom Day Parade in Fredericksburg Virginia.
- Each Commandery may annually assemble on Christmas, Good Friday, Easter, and Ascension Day in its Asylum or some place of public worship.
- Every Commandery will assemble in some church or its Asylum and have an address by its Prelate or some other person for Christmas and Easter.
- Offer Christian rites or memorial services for a fallen Sir Knight.
- Actively solicit contributions to the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund.
- **Recommend eligible Christian ministers to participate in the Holy Land Pilgrimage.**

Sword of Progress Support Masonic Youth

Long Range Goal – Lead Virginia Masonry in providing services on behalf of young people and the adults working for the betterment of our Masonic Youth

Masonic Youth Organizations not only need our support but deserve it as well. DeMolay International, Job’s Daughters International, and International Order of Rainbow for Girls have been instrumental in forming good character and instilling good citizenship in young people for many years. Our Masonic Youth Organizations serve a critical role but are all too often under supported.

Constituent Commanderies should sponsor a program by a Masonic Youth Organization. The exemplification of the DeMolay Degree, which includes a dramatic presentation of the final trial of the

last Grand Master of the Ancient Templars, Jacques DeMolay would be an excellent program. Also, the presentation of the Flower Talk at one of our functions would be

a good choice. Programs by the Job's Daughters and Rainbow Girls are also good subjects for youth programs.

Similarly, each Constituent Commandery should attend a meeting of one or more of our Masonic Youth Organizations as a body. Appear in uniform and offer to reciprocate by presenting a program or presentation. The youth will be thrilled at your appearance!

Virginia's Commanderies and their Sir Knights are uniquely qualified to lead Chivalric Masonry providing services on behalf of young people, and the adults working for the betterment of our youth groups. You can help young people: accept greater responsibility for their actions; providing guidance and support; give opportunities for public speaking; instill respect in our youth through the unique rituals and customs respective to each of our Masonic youth groups; and teambuilding and character development to prepare them for adulthood.

Objectives:

- Promote Masonic Youth

Actions:

- Visit the local DeMolay, Job's Daughters, and Rainbow Girls in uniform and often.
- Be an Adult Masonic Advisor or Associate Bethel Guardian.
- Invite the DeMolay, Job's Daughters, and Rainbow Girls to present a program in a Knights Templar Conclave.
- Offer to present the colors or a Flag Program to a meeting of the DeMolay, Job's Daughters, and Rainbow Girls.

Sword of Progress Promote York Rite Unity

Long Range Goal – Foster the foundation of Masonic unity within the York Rite of Freemasonry.

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; as the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore. (Psalms 133: 1-3 KLV)

How pleasant for the Brethren to dwell together in unity! One of the enduring principal objectives of Grand Commandery is to bring about Virginia York Rite Unity. That goal requires more than mere lip service – if York Rite Masons are to not only survive but also to prosper, it is incumbent upon each of us to support each other.

Objectives:

- Build and strengthen intra-fraternal relations with York Rite Bodies.

Actions:

- Attend the Official Visit of the Grand Master of Masons, Grand High Priest of Masons and Grand Commander of Virginia.
- Attend Official Visit of the local District Deputy Grand Master, District Deputy Grand High Priest, and District Deputy Grand Commander.
- Attend one or more Stated and/or Work Meetings of the local Symbolic Lodge and Royal Arch Chapter.
- Attend the Annual Stated Meeting of Grand Lodge of Virginia, Annual Grand Convocation of Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Virginia, and the Stated Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Virginia.
- Attend Annual York Rite Banquets.
- Volunteer to participate in Symbol Lodge and/or Royal Arch ritual work, teach catechisms, and otherwise mentor newly raised Master Masons.
- Volunteer to present a paper on some York Rite subject, especially on a Templar topic.

Sword of Progress Bicentennial Support

Long Range Goal – The Grand Commandery Bicentennial Ceremony will honor 200 years of Templary Masonry in Virginia.

General Order 1 (May 3, 2014) created a Grand Commandery Special Bicentennial Committee to oversee planning and executing the Grand Commandery Bicentennial Ceremony. General Order 2 (June 25, 2014) created the Bicentennial

Celebration Fund account as a sub-account of the Permanent Fund for management and oversight of bicentennial funds. From a planner viewpoint, creating a Bicentennial Committee and a Bicentennial Celebration Fund are good first starts. The “Who, What and Why” is easy; the “Where, When, What, and How” are the hard parts. The Bicentennial Celebration needs to be bounded, funded, and advertised and efforts on behalf of the Bicentennial, if possible, be in accordance with federal and state regulations for a “not-for-profit” organizations.

Objectives:

- Honor 200 years of Templary Masonry in Virginia

Actions:

- The Bicentennial Committee must answer the “Who, What, Why, Where, When, What, and How” for a successful Bicentennial Ceremony.
- The Grand Commandery Finance Committee and the Grand Commanders in the pre-Bicentennial period should set aside monies in the annual budgets to fund Bicentennial activities.
- The Permanent Fund Trustees and Grand Commandery Finance Committee must work and coordinate their Bicentennial efforts with each other.
- Publicize upcoming Bicentennial activities and events.
- Local Action Groups must be established to work on:

- Schedule Bicentennial activities and events.
- Hotel Arrangements and Meals
- Reception/Registration/Hospitality Rooms
- Entertainment/Tours
- Transportation

*"Let your heart therefore be perfect with the
Lord our God, to walk in his statutes and to keep His commandments..."*

Kings 8:61 KJV

*"Let your light so shine before men,
that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven."*

Matthew 5:16 KJV

Respectfully Submitted, 2018

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Respectfully Updated, 2019

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