

**STATE SUPPLEMENT**  
**North Carolina**  
**DECEMBER EDITION**

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Greetings, Sir Knights:

For unto us a child is born. Unto us a Son is given. The government will be upon His shoulders. His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

As we prepare our selves and families for the up coming celebration of Christ's birth, may we be reminded that it is His birth we are honoring.

The gifts He seeks most, is our heart and soul, which He bought and paid for on Calvary. These gifts will not be found under a tree or in a fancy wrapped box; but only in the recess of our own being can His will be accomplished.

Join in with the Grand Presiding Officers and Christian Knights throughout North Carolina in putting Christ back in Christmas. From our family to yours, HAPPY HOLIDAYS and may your New Year be all you want it to be.

A short course in human relations.....

The six most important words- "I admit I made a mistake."

The five most important words- "You did a good job."

The four most important words- "What is your opinion?"

The three most important words- "If you please."

The two most important words- "Thank you."

The LEAST important word- "I"

December 14, 1799, Brother George Washington departed this life.  
December 18, 1886, Brother Hiram Abiff Boaz, Methodist Bishop was born.  
December 27, 1787, the Grand Lodge of North Carolina was founded.  
December 27, 1813, the Grand Lodge of Tennessee was founded.  
December 28, 1817, the Grand Lodge of South Carolina was formed.

Congratulations are not only in order to the Mt Airy bodies, but also to the Oxford York Rite Bodies. They became the second body in the state to meet or exceed the three dollar per member challenge for our charities. Thanks Oxford!!!

The "power pot" just keeps on growing and glowing, thanks to your generosity. I hope that by the time you read this, we will be over the \$7,000 mark. As of 11/2/02, we have \$5,600 plus. You guys are GREAT!

Festivals have recently been held in Raleigh, Charlotte, New Bern, Wilmington, and Salisbury with anywhere from one to six candidates in each class. Our growth is always positive regardless of quantity.

There will be an eastern area school of instruction on January 4, 2003 at the New Bern York Rite Temple. This will be for districts one, two, and three. District Commanders and District Instructor Inspectors plan to be in attendance. Commanders and Order of the Temple workers should be present. We will begin at 9:30 a.m. and hopefully be through by 12:00 noon.

Schools are in the works for the central and western districts of the state and the dates and locations will be in the January edition. Your participation would be greatly appreciated.

Anyone interested in going to Washington DC in April 2003 for the Easter Sunrise service needs to contact me, Pete Cook, so that proper accommodations can be made by the end of February. My address and phone number are in the directory and magazine.

Sir Knights, as our membership matures out, replacements are getting fewer and fewer. We are soon going to have to make some serious decisions. Bodies are wanting and needing to merge. Temple maintenance cost is on the rise. The pool of workers to draw from is getting smaller and smaller. The planning for the solution for these situations needs to start now. Though our pride and ego will be something to deal with, we must do what is best for the York Rite, not self. "For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease." Which will I be? Will I be part of the problem or part of the solution? This is food for thought and won't be easy to accomplish.

Fraternally,

*Pete Cook,*

Grand Commander

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Salutes part 2. By David H. Minshall (Chairman of St. John's Day Parade)

There are 2\_Salutes to be used with the sword. These are described as follows;

- 1. Present, SWORDS** (T42/95) From Carry position, raise sword to the front, hilt cross as high as chin and 6\_inches in front of neck, edge to left, point 6\_inches further forward than hilt cross, thumb extended on back of grip, wrist straight, all fingers grasping grip.
- 2. Carry, SWORDS** (T40/91\_2) Bring back of blade against shoulder, blade vertical, back of grip to the rear, arm nearly straight down, thumb and forefinger embracing grip, thumb against thigh, other fingers extended and joined in rear of grip. NOTE (T39/89) Carry sword with a flexible wrist and without tight grip grasp. Grip at Carry should be held by thumb and forefinger, like holding a pen and cover about 2/3 of grip below the guard.
- 3. Salute, SWORDS** (T42/97) An Officer Salute. Execute: Present, SWORDS. Drop point of sword edge to left, to about 15\_inches in front of and in line with right foot, arm hanging naturally, elbow close to body, back of hand down. Carry, SWORDS (T42/98) NOTE (T27/58) Heels together, feet turned out equally, forming an angle of about 45\_degrees.