

60th Anniversary Celebration of Eastern Regional Assembly

Approximately 200 registered Knights Companions and 65 Ladies attended the 60th Eastern Regional Assembly at the Holiday Inn, Grantville, Pennsylvania on November 2 - 4, 2018. A total of 36 conclaves from 16 different states including the District of Columbia were represented. Thirty-two of the 38 conclaves in 12 of the 13 states in the Eastern Region, including the District of Columbia, were represented. New Hampshire was the only state without representation. The following divisions had all their conclaves represented – Connecticut (1), Delaware (1), District of Columbia (1), Maryland (1), New Jersey (2), New York (7), Pennsylvania (12), Rhode Island (1), and West Virginia (2). Other states in the Eastern Regional represented included Massachusetts (1), Vermont (2) and Virginia (1). Knights Companions from 4 other conclaves in 4 other states were present, included California (1), Michigan (1), Ohio (1), Texas (1).

The informal dinner, “Celebrating the Past,” on Friday night started the weekend. One hundred and seventy-one revisited the past as they honored the tradition of the early Eastern Regional Assemblies with a delicious and plentiful turkey dinner, complete with cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie, and reminisced.

“Embracing the Present,” Knights Companions from United States Premier Conclave (Pittsburgh, PA); Williamsport Conclave (Williamsport, PA); and St. James Conclave (Shamokin, PA) performed outstanding, impressive ritualistic work for the 23 Senate of Sovereigns candidates and 24 College of Viceroy candidates; 25 Order of the Red Cross of Constantine candidates; and 34 Appendant Orders candidates, respectively. Wilmer E. Hall, ME Past Grand Commander, KT of PA, and Douglas D. Crum, MP Past Grand Master, GC of R&SMM of PA, capably operated the updated audio system.

Dignitaries introduced to KC Kenneth B. Fischer, KGC, Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign, and the Assembly of Knights Companions and Ladies included the following:

- **CONCORDINATE BODIES** – James R. Herrington, Grand Governor of Delaware, YRSC; Richard A. Rodibaugh, Grand Governor of Pennsylvania, YRSC; James B. Walsh, Northeast (South) Regional DGGM, General Grand Council CM, International; Mark E. Irwin, DGGHP Northeast Region, General Grand Chapter RAM International; Benjamin A. Beynon, R.E. Grand Commander, Knights Templar of Pennsylvania; Charles M. Bombich, Most Puissant Grand Master of the Grand Council R.& S.M.M. of Pennsylvania; Philip Crawford, MEGHP, Rhode Island; David W. Schuler, MEGHP, Vermont; George F. Morrow, MEGHP, Grand Holy RAC of Pennsylvania; and David Dixon Goodwin, Most Venerable Sovereign Grand Master Allied Masonic Degrees, USA;
- **SUPREME COUNCIL SOUTHERN MASONIC JURISDICTION** – Marlin Mills, 33°, Sovereign Grand Inspector General, MD;
- **SUPREME COUNCIL NORTHERN MASONIC JURISDICTION** – Kevin J. Hecht, 33°, Active, CT, and Intendant General, CT; Bruce Work, 33°, Deputy for CT; Dennis W. Pothier, 33°, Active, RI; Steven E. Smith, 33°, Deputy for RI; and David Glattly, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander;
- **INTENDANT GENERALS** – David H. Laucius, DE; W. Kenneth Lyons, Jr., DC; Gordon A. Davids, MD; Donald R. Denning, Jr., MA; Charles C. Mendell, NY Western; Henry L. Leshner, PA Central; John A. Habel, PA Western; Thomas F. Miller, PA Eastern; Leon C. Knudsen, RI; and Jonathan Park, VT;

•PAST INTENDANT GENERALS – James A. Pletz, DE; Freeman Z. Frey, III, PA Central; Richard A. Balas, KCC, PA Western; Marvin G. Speicher, KCC, PA Eastern; and Belford A. Belles, VT;

•UNITED GRAND IMPERIAL COUNCIL – Robert S. Finley, KGC, PGS; Burch E. Zehner, KGC, PGS; Thomas W. Jackson, KGC, PGS; Reverend William D. Hartman, Grand High Prelate; Richard V. Travis, KCC, Grand Almoner and Active Emeritus, CT; Douglas F. Hegyi, Grand Senior General; R. Stephen Doan, KGC, PGS and Grand Recorder; and James E. Winzenreid, Grand Viceroy and Provincial Grand Master, Royal Order of Scotland;

•RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF PENNSYLVANIA – S. Eugene Herritt, RW Grand Master accompanied by Larry A. Derr, RW Junior Grand Warden; Mark A. Haines, RW Grand Secretary; Jay W. Smith, RW Past Grand Master; Marvin G. Speicher, KCC, RW Past Grand Treasurer; and Thomas W. Jackson, KGC, PGS, and RW Past Grand Secretary.



John Orr, Jr.; Bennie G. Owens; Paul K. Pfalzgraf; Theodore Pierce; Norris L. Provencher; Gardner C. Sconyers; James S. Spence; and Lester G. Weinheimer – from 17 different conclaves throughout the Eastern Region. Assisting him were Robert S. Finley, KGC, PGS and Thomas F. Miller, IG, Pennsylvania Eastern.

While the Knights Companions enjoyed the afternoon ritualistic work, 33 Ladies enjoyed a trolley tour of Hershey, PA, with a stop at Chocolate World. Others enjoyed nearby shopping at the outlets and/or gaming at the Hollywood Casino.

One hundred and seventy-four Knights Companions and Ladies attended the annual Saturday night banquet with the Dave Wilson Jax Trio providing the music for the social hour and dinner. Knights Companions received special glasses commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the Eastern Regional Assembly.

“Focusing on the Future,” Thomas F. Miller, Chairman, thanked those who helped make another successful Eastern Regional – Richard and Mary Balas; Doug Crum; Robert Finley; Freeman and Karen Frey; Marci Goodwin; Mark Haines; Wilmer E. Hall; Gordon Hensel; Henry and Kathleen Lesh; Robert Sutcliffe, Paul Sutcliffe, and their team; his wife Betty; all degree cast members; and the Holiday Inn, Harrisburg/Hershey staff. He also announced the 61th Annual Eastern Regional Assembly will be held at the Holiday Inn, Harrisburg/Hershey at Grantville on the traditional first full weekend of November – November 1 - 3, 2019.

Following the Introduction of Dignitaries, The Reverend William D. Hartman, Grand High Prelate, conducted the annual Necrology Service for the 25 departed Knights Companions – Frederick J. Berenbroick; Frederick Bitter; Arthur F. Chapman, Sr.; David Cumming; Harley DeShane; Edward H. Fowler; Kenneth R. Geary; Richard J. Gibbons; Robert H. Gillespie; Barteld W. Gout; Bafford H. Harrison; William L. Holliday; Joseph Jacobs; Douglas L. Jordan; C. Jarvis Lewis, Jr.; Leo H. Lohrmam; John Margroff;