

ARKANSAS SUPPLEMENT



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Hot August Knights

Please forgive me for turning the photo at right on its side. But, it's the only way I could get everybody on the page!

August 24, 2019, was a great day at Hugh de Payens Commandery #1 in Little Rock. Sir Knights and candidates from across Arkansas gathered for the conferrals of the Orders of Christian Knighthood. There was a total of thirteen new Knightings that day; four from Little Rock, four from Ivanhoe #18 in Jonesboro, three from Hot Springs #5 and two from St. Elmo #13 in Batesville. The candidates at right are gathered behind REC Grand Commander Ron Tucker (seated-left) and HdP EC Joe Dixon. (seated-right)

Congratulations,
Sir Knights!



R.: E.: Grand Commander
Ronald Shinall Tucker
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Greetings, Sir Knights:



This year, REGC Tucker is asking each of his officers to write an article for the "AR Supplement". This month's article is from ESK David Ponder, Grand Junior Warden.

What is Your Legacy?

I hope this article finds you in good health and spirits. I am truly honored to serve as your Grand Junior Warden for 2019. I never imagined serving you in this capacity when I became a Master Mason in 1998.

After straying away from Masonry due to a change in employers and working to care for a large family, I returned to Freemasonry in 2012 after my divorce in 2010. Then, I began my journey through the Chapter, Council, and Commandery orders and was finally dubbed a Sir Knight in August of 2013. I'll never forget that knighting ceremony. During the final stages, I was chosen to be the exemplar for the festival during the Templar obligation and the cup was "real" in the fifth libation, if you know what I mean. Simply put, it was the most solemn ceremony that I had ever been engaged in and marked a definitive turning point in my life that has left a lasting impression. It didn't end there though! After the completion of the ceremony, the introduction of the Grand Officers began. I didn't recognize any of the names except one, C.S. Walker. Most Eminent Walker was our Grand Commander that year! I hadn't seen him since about 1992. You see, I grew up working on 18 wheelers with my father and grandfather as a child. I never imagined that I would use those skills in the future to care for my family or that I would ever use them

again for that matter. So fast forward to when my daughter is on the way and I've been renting a home from C.S. Walker for a bit. He always was very kind and compassionate towards our family, whenever we would see him. He had noticed us struggling a bit and in addition to helping us out with a few things, he asked if I could maintain his tractor trailer rigs for him in exchange for some extra money. Of course, I agreed to do the maintenance and it helped us out tremendously. As you can imagine, a great man like PEC Walker will leave a lasting impression on you of what a good man should be. I never had any idea that he was a Mason or a Templar for all those years and it surprised me to hear his name announced as our Grand Commander. Even his lapel pin for that year has a very special meaning to me and it was an honor to be knighted during his tenure as Grand Commander of Arkansas. There is much more to the story than what's written here, but that day forever strengthened my bond with the fraternity.

I could've written about anything for this month's insert and something much less personal. I chose to write this for a few reasons; I never got a chance to tell C.S. Walker thank you for just being there that day and the impact it had, so that other Sir Knights realize the difference you can make in someone's life by just being there during a moment like that, and to just tell you a little about myself because we're all running different directions when we meet.

In Christian Faith and Brotherhood,

David S. Ponder
Grand Junior Warden