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+Greetings and Welcome + Another Great Month for Templary!

Is The Glass Half Full or Half Empty? – Believe it or not, we are half way through this Templar year, and by the last count, we are slightly... ahead of the Membership Curve, but we are nowhere close to being finished with our efforts! There are some Commanderies that have put a maximum effort into this years Membership program and they continue to benefit from their growth; I am confident that the other Commanderies in Texas are making preparations to increase their Membership by conferring the Templar Orders or taking their candidates to a York Rite Festival... Either way, we still have an opportunity to make a positive change in our Membership numbers and more importantly, your Commandery will become more viable and lucky enough to have more Sir Knights to enjoy the full Masonic experience! Time is running short for the Membership Contest, but ***it's not too late...*** **Believe you can do it and you're halfway there!** Visit your Blue Lodges, ask your Brethren to join the York Rite and fulfill their Masonic education and experience, and share the enlightenment of the York Rite!

A DeMolay/Scottish Rite/Templar SPECIAL EVENT - On March 18, 1314, the last Grand Master of the Ancient Templars, Jacques DeMolay, was put to death, refusing to betray his brethren and maintaining his faith until the very end. To commemorate the 700th anniversary of this very special day, The Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Texas, along with the Texas DeMolay Association, and the Texas Orient of the Scottish Rite, will be hosting an event at the Lee Lockwood Museum, in Waco, Texas, on Saturday, March 15, 2014. The event will include The DeMolay Initiatory Degree, The DeMolay Degree, and The Fourth Section; plus, a representation of the Scottish Rite Templar Degrees; a break for lunch, with the afternoon dedicated to all of the Templar 'Chivalric' Orders. What better way to commemorate this Past Grand Master of Ancient Templary, than to build upon the membership numbers of the organization developed in honor of the brave, faithful Knights Templar! **Mark Your Calendars, Plan To Be There and BRING your DeMolay CANDIDATES for the morning DeMolay Degrees and your Templar CANDIDATES to the afternoon session!!!** I'll be looking for YOU!

From The Smallest Beginnings – Every expert, in every field of endeavor, was once a beginner... They did not start out with excellence, they acquired it! This holds true for you (and your Commandery) as well! Through time and effort, we all see success in one form or another, whether it's in our professional occupations or in our fraternal organizations, however, many times, the extent of

the outcome, depends heavily upon the effort expended. Sometimes the maximum results come from very small beginnings, review **Matt 13:31-32**, ***"The Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field; which is indeed smaller than all seeds. But, when it is grown, it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in its branches."*** And, did you know that (1) acre of grapes, when harvested, yields (on the average) five tons of grapes, which yields (800) gallons (or roughly 4000+ bottles) of wine. But we must remember, before any of this occurs, we/YOU, must plant the seeds... **YOU** are the difference between nothing happening and growth beyond your imagination, but it's up to **YOU**; I won't say it's easy, but I will say it's worth it! Like NIKE says, ***"Just Do It!"***

Doubts? – As you and your Commandery are pushing forward to your Membership goal, it may appear that sometimes your progress is slow, but don't quit, remember, even slow progress is progress; first we crawl, then we walk, then we run! The following poem, ***"Invictus"***, by William Ernest Henley, reminds me that we only have control over our thoughts, attitudes and actions, and if we make poor decisions, we must deal with the consequences; If we encounter negativity, or if we suffer a set-back in our lives, we have a choice of how to deal with it... we can quit and lose, or we can restart, pick up the pace and make a recovery! 'Invictus' is Latin for 'unconquered', and this is the spirit that we all should strive to attain....

***Out of the night that covers me,
 Black as the Pit from pole to pole,
 I thank whatever gods may be
 For my unconquerable soul.***

***In the fell clutch of circumstance
 I have not winced or cried aloud.
 Under the bludgeoning's of chance
 My head is bloody, but not bowed.***

***Beyond this place of wrath and tears
 Looms but the horror of the shade,
 And yet the menace of the years finds,
 And shall find me, unafraid.***

***It matters not how strait the gate,
 How charged with punishment of the scroll,
 I am the master of my fate;
 I am the captain of my soul.***

– Don't be afraid of greatness, step up to the challenge and promote Templary!

**+ H. Bart Henderson + Grand Commander + 2013-2014 +
 "Do right, and risk the consequences!" - Brother Sam Houston**