



LEE SEAGONDOLLAR, EDITOR

1840 N. Cottonwood Loop, Wasilla, AK 99654-4269

Tel. (907) 376-2711 or e-mail: bearsup@mtaonline.net

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, SHRINE, AMARANTH, L.O.S. N.A., O.E.S. and BLUE LODGE REPRESENTED IN WASILLA INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

The Knights Templar was represented again this year by the Grand Commander of Alaska and members of Anchorage Commandery #2 and Mat-Su Valley Commandery #4, K.T. Participants greeted spectators and the public at the annual INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE IN WASILLA, ALASKA. This is the fourth year for the event in which ALASKA SHRINE generously invited the Commanderies and other concordant bodies to represent themselves and celebrate our nation's birthday. What a great opportunity to remind the public of the presence of Masonic organizations. The parade began at 11 AM with many more entries than ever before.



Sir Knight "Buck" Buxton, Right Eminent Grand Commander of Alaska proudly steadies Old Glory before the Independence Day Parade begins.

FROM THE EDITOR

I would like to encourage all Sir Knights to submit articles, letters, pictures, or comments for inclusion in this supplement. Articles need to be submitted to me by the 25th of the month for the next issue (September 25th for October issue).

COMMANDERIES CONTINUE GROWTH WITH PLANS FOR FALL FESTIVALS

The coming of the Fall Festival Season is upon us. Mat-Su Valley Commandery #4, KT is preparing to welcome a new candidate. The life blood of any Commandery is to encourage its members to actively seek new Sir Knights. Let us not forget that we must also strive to retain our present ranks. Attrition will always take its toll with the call of the Grand Architect who welcomes his children to their just reward. We cannot stay His will, but we must constantly remind each other of the comradeship which we enjoy and the value we place in our current Sir Knights. When did you last tell your closest comrade how much his friendship and companionship means to you?

What kind of activities does your Commandery use to help keep the interest of its members? When was the last time your Commandery shared a meal together? Did you enjoy the last Conclave or was it "just another boring business meeting?" If the answers to these questions are: "Nothing; I can't even remember; No, it wasn't anything great." The warning bells should be sounding! Don't be afraid to try something. Talk to your Commander. Talk to each other. Start your quest to invigorate your Commandery by planning a function where you can share time with your fellows. It doesn't have to be a Stated Conclave. Make sure you have a common goal before you gather. Getting your Commandery to plan a project to help someone is a good start. There are plenty of things that need an extra hand to keep your meeting location in good order. Perhaps asking the Commandery if they might like to repaint a room of the building or replace some worn out part of the facility might offer a sense of accomplishment and cohesiveness as well as to help maintain a good relationship with others who use the structure.

Everyone likes to feel wanted and needed. Does your Commandery recognize those who go that "extra mile?" Do you always rely on one particular member to perform some task or job? An award is a simple thing to put together and it is likewise easy to find someone who should receive it. Don't hesitate to say "Thanks!"

Think about what you can do. Don't wait and let someone else do it for you. We need each other, we need inspiration and we need to grow. Templary depends upon you and me. Please..... don't let it down.