

# York Rite Crusader



## Governor General's Message



Dear Distinguished Brethren,

I extend to each of you greetings on behalf of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America. As this is my last Crusader Article, I would like to thank all the Companion Knights and ladies of our Sovereign College for all their efforts and their hospitality given to me on my travels. I would be remiss if I did not thank my wife Natalie, she supports me in all my endeavors public and fraternal. I could not do all these projects and schedules without her. Thank you Natalie for being by my side.

For my Masonic work, the past two years have been, and will be, among my most memorable. During my travels, I have been greeted with such fraternal hospitality, and respect. I thank you all for your continued support and fraternal companionship.

During my term of Office I have come to know many new faces and I owe a great deal of thanks to so many who have supported me these past two years, too many to mention here. I have received advice and support from all our trusted Past Governors General and I thank each one of them. My Officers have given their time and talent and I thank each one of them. To all the Grand Governors, Deputy Grand Governors, Committee Members and Chairman who have served this Sovereign College well during my term, I thank you. But most of all I thank all the Companion Knights, for without their support and their efforts we would not have this beloved York Rite Sovereign College. I look forward to greeting you in Des Moines, Iowa at our 69th General Assembly.

As you know, our 69th General Assembly is just around the corner, July 22-25, 2026 in Des Moines, Iowa. Great events have been planned by the capable members and their ladies of the colleges in Iowa. They have two tours planned, as well as a Welcome Dinner at the Des Moines Scottish Rite Building on Wednesday at 6:00 pm.

You will find complete registration material and descriptions of the tours in this issue of the Crusader, please review it and if you have any questions, contact the Denton Office. You may mail your registration into the YRSC Office or you can register online, but please do not do both!

I would like to extend my congratulations to the members of the 2026 Order of the Purple Cross Class. I know each of you realize what this honor means. It is the highest honor we confer on an individual. I thank each of you for your continued service and look forward to greeting you in Iowa. This year's Class will be named in honor and memory of Past Governor General Blaine H. Simons, a great mason and gentlemen of the first order. As usual, we have a very capable and talented team of volunteers who will confer our College's highest honor, the Order of the Purple Cross of York. I look forward to their fine exemplification.

Due to the untimely death of our faithful Treasurer General Reese L. Harrison, Jr. I appointed Joe R. Manning, Jr. This appointment is made in compliance with Section 2, d, of the Regulations of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America. In accordance with that section Joe R. Manning, Jr. is not eligible for that office when it will be filled by election at the next General Assembly, in Des Moines, Iowa.

One of the issues that Reese always mentioned at every General Assembly is the need for all to give to the Charitable Fund USA and the Charitable Foundation of Canada. I think this is a good place for me to mention the same to all the members. Use the colored envelope which you will find inside for the donations for the Charitable Fund USA and mail directly to the Charitable Foundation of Canada, address can be found on page 12 of this Crusader.

I hope I will get the privilege of welcoming many of you to Des Moines, Iowa at our 69th General Assembly. It is a great time for all. For those who have never been to the Assembly, come and meet new people and forge new friendships and for those that have been to the Assembly, continue to come and renew your friendships. It is a great place for masonic fellowship!

Thank you for the privilege of being your Governor General 2024-2026.

Fraternally,  
Blaine B. Hildreth, KGCY,  
Governor General

**Governors!** Keep in mind that if your College would like to nominate your College Secretary for the Secretary of the Year Award, please request the nomination form from the Sovereign College Office or visit the website. All nominations forms are due back in the Sovereign College Office by July 01, 2025.

Should your College Secretary become sick, or otherwise disabled, please delegate the responsibility to a pro-tem appointment to ENSURE compliance with **Section 110 (A) page 33** "Every York Rite College shall submit concurrently to the Secretary General of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America and to the Colleges Grand Governor its Annual Returns, Financial Report, Activities Report, and such other reports as may be required from time to time, in and on the forms specified, to be received in the Sovereign College Office no later than July 1 of each year." and **Section 6 (I) page 18** "A nominee to receive the Order of the Purple Cross of York shall not have his nomination approved by the Board of Directors if the Annual Return and Financial obligation of the College of which he is a member are not received at the Office of the Secretary General by July 1 of that year. Failure to comply nullifies your OPC nominations. "Please ensure that your college complies with all the above.

**York Rite Sovereign College  
Of North America**

PO Box 368, Denton, NC 27239-0368  
Tel: (336) 859-YRSC (9772) Fax (336) 859-0454  
Email: yrsc1957@windstream.net  
Website www.yrscna.org

**Officers 2024-2026**

- Bryce B. Hildreth ..... Governor General
- Stanton T. Brown, II..... Deputy Governor General
- Orville R. Armstrong..... Chancellor General
- Joe R. Manning, Jr. .... Treasurer General Pro Tem
- D. Allen Surratt..... Secretary General
- Russell E. Bridges..... Assistant to Secretary General
- Rev. Steven G. Tiner..... Primate General
- Terry Plemons ..... Associate Primate General
- James R. Taylor, Jr. .... Preceptor General
- Joe R. Bush ..... Seneschal General
- William F. Reinhold ..... Marshal General
- J. David Cashion..... Sentinel General
- John Donohoo ..... Grand Standard Bearer
- H. Lloyd Christopher..... Herald General
- Leland L. Burlison ..... Grand Herald
- Robert E. Cooper ..... Grand Herald
- William Karstens, IV ..... Grand Herald
- Rick N. McCampbell ..... Grand Organist

**FUTURE GENERAL ASSEMBLIES  
OF THE YORK RITE SOVEREIGN COLLEGE**

2027 .....Phoenix, Arizona

If your Jurisdiction is interested in hosting a General Assembly please contact the Sovereign College Office at PO Box 368, Denton, NC 27239-0363 \* Tel: (336) 859-9772 \* Email: yrsc1957@windstream.net

If you are interested in the Sovereign College's Education Program entitled Companion Adept of the Temple, please note that complete information and the enrollment form can now be found on our website at [www.yrscna.org](http://www.yrscna.org)

**CENTRAL ILLINOIS COLLEGE No. 42  
Peoria, Illinois**

On August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Central Illinois College No. 42 celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The college was chartered on the same date in 1975 with 46 Charter members. Over the years the College has continued to grow to 107 members as we support York Rite Masonry in the downstate Illinois area.

The celebration meeting was attended by 22 members, 2 visiting Companions along with a tea attended by 6 ladies. Following the meeting and refreshments those in attendance enjoyed more fellowship at a local restaurant.



**Pictured above, left to right:** Adam Miranda, David Young, Jeff Estes, Marty Kwilosz, Charles Robertson, Stephanie Kwilosz and Adelynn, Bill Adams, Richard Sinclair, Lorraine Sinclair, Tim Rapalee, Ralph Davis, Jeremy Vinson, Mary Lowery, Bob Wright, John Huffman, Steve Devries, Tom Yingling, Bill Mehrhoff, Evan Young, Danny Gaddis, Mark Welch, Nola Gaddis, Stuart Palmer, Donna Waters, Nyle Waters, Paul Dillow, Richard Carnall (Regent), Sean McBride (Grand Governor), Gary Sheets, Mary Jean Sheets (not pictured Jennifer Huffman).

Fraternally,  
John Huffman

FOUR CORNERS COLLEGE No. 171 - Cortez Colorado  
Visits Veterans Retirement Home, Rifle, Colorado



Photo to the Left: Four Corners York Rite College #171, Cortez, CO, with the help of Right Eminent Grand Commander Joe Magoffin of Colorado presented the Gold Honour Award to Sir Knight Daniel Dimetrov, Commander of Mt. Holy Cross Commandery #5, Leadville, CO



Photo to the Right: Four Corners York Rite College #171, Cortez, CO presented the Gold Honour Award to Companion Knight Greg Foster.



**2026 LEGISLATIVE CALL**

**Des Monies, Iowa**

The following recommendation to change the Constitution and By-laws of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America was received by the Board of Directors and was approved to be referred to the Regents and Grand Governors with a recommendation for approval at their next Meeting on July 24, 2026.

Therefore, be it RESOLVED, that Section 106 of the Regulations for the Government of Constituent Colleges be amended to read as follows:

Section 106 By-laws

~~Each College shall adopt the Uniform Code of By-laws of the YORK RITE SOVEREIGN COLLEGE OF NORTH AMERICA for its governance in compliance with the provisions of the Constitution. By laws must be submitted in triplicate to the office of the Secretary General (with recommendation by the Grand Governor of the State or Province) (7/98) and must be reviewed by the Jurisprudence Committee with their recommendations and approval; thereon to the Governor General for his confirmation before they are effective. (7/97)~~

*Constituent Colleges must submit proposed By-laws or proposed By-law amendments electronically or physically to the office of the Secretary General (with recommendation by the Grand Governor of the State or Province). If submitted physically, they must be in triplicate. (7/97 and 8/25) Unless specified by these regulations, any proposed set of By-laws or By-Law amendments must be reviewed by the Jurisprudence Committee with their recommendations and approval; thereon to the Governor General for his confirmation before they are effective. (7/97)*

*Constituent Colleges are granted the authority to affix, raise, or lower the Fees for Membership, the Annual Dues for Membership, or Prepaid Dues amount, within the minimum limitations set by the YORK RITE SOVEREIGN COLLEGE OF NORTH AMERICA, without the recommendation and approval of the Jurisprudence Committee. Such changes take effect upon approval by the Constituent College. (8/25)*

~~*If any amendment submitted to the Secretary General would amend the Prepaid Dues amount (if any), Assembly Dates, Fees for Membership, Annual Dues for Membership, or Pre-authorized Charity Amount, of a Constituent Council, the Grand Governor may approve the proposals without the recommendations and approval of the Jurisprudence Committee. The Grand Governor reserves the right to solicit the recommendations and approval of the Jurisprudence Committee for any of the submissions listed in this Sub-article.*~~

- B. re-lettered to D, otherwise unchanged
- C. re-lettered to E, otherwise unchanged
- D. D. re-lettered to F, and with the following changes: A College shall have the right to amend its By-laws as prescribed therein, and such amendments shall become effective upon the approval by the Governor General.

**WILDERNESS ROAD COLLEGE No. 94**

**Blacksburg, Virginia**



Wilderness Road York Rite College No. 94  
Billy Mack Phipps Class of 2025  
19 July 2025

The Order Knight of York was held on 19 July 2025 at McDaniel Lodge in Christiansburg Virginia. We welcomed six (6) new members into our college.

We were also pleased to host our Grand Governor William F. Reinhold at this meeting.

Fraternally,  
James Nunn

**REGIUS COLLEGE No. 86**

**Phoenix, Arizona**



Regius York Rite College presented a Gold Honour Award to Eric Dupree, the Senior Grand Warden of the Arizona Grand Lodge. In the photo of the presentation are (from Left): Roger Biede III DSA, the Arizona Grand Lodge Deputy Grand Master; David P Miller OPC, Regius York Rite College Secretary; Eric Dupree; Richard G Young, OPC, YRSCNA Grand Governor for Arizona; and, Randal Jager, Past Grand Master of Masons in Arizona.

**LUTHER G. PALMER COLLEGE No. 123 - Atlanta, Georgia  
History Presentation by C. Danny Wofford**

The York Rite Sovereign College of North America came into being in the city of Detroit, Michigan, on January 6, 1957. It was the result of a meeting called by Richard L. Lewis, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch masons of Michigan, and attended by the heads of the four Michigan York Rite Bodies and other distinguished leaders from other states.

The purposes of the YRSCNA, as set forth in its constitution and by-laws are as follows:

1. To foster a spirit of cooperation and coordination among each of the Bodies of York Rite Masonry.
2. To assist in worthy efforts to improve the ritualistic and dramatic presentation of York Rite work.
3. To conduct an educational program in order to inculcate a greater appreciation of the principles, ideals and programs of York Rite Masonry.
4. To strengthen York Rite Masonry in every proper manner.
5. To build a love of country and to aid and support genuine Patriotism.
6. To reward outstanding service to York Rite Masonry by awards, honors and other methods of proper recognition.
7. To support Charitable and Benevolent endeavors of Free Masonry.

The first York Rite College was constituted on June 15, 1957, in the city of Jackson, Michigan from here, the new organization spread rapidly from coast to coast and from north to south. By 1970, Colleges had been established in 14 states there are 161 colleges, in Canada, 25 colleges, and in the Philippines, 2 Colleges. In Georgia there are six colleges.

1. Luther G. Palmer No. 123 - Chartered July 30, 1988
2. Chattahoochee No. 166 - Chartered July 22, 1993
3. Herman E. Freeman No. 186 - Chartered July 31, 1999
4. Wiregrass College No. 189 - Chartered July 28, 2001
5. Middle Georgia College No. 201 - Chartered August 2, 2008
6. W. Joe Clarke College No. 203 - Chartered July 25, 2009

Presently there are 282 members in Georgia.

The Order Knight of York is conferred by the college. It serves as a symbolic bridge connecting the various bodies of the York Rite through a shared historical legend.

The Order is rooted in the Legend of York in the years 926 AD in York, England. According to the legend, King Athelstan (the first King of England) granted the first royal Charter of the Masonic Guilds to hold a General Assembly at York. The ritual depicts Athelstan appointing his son, Prince Edwin, to oversee the craft and establish a code of laws. The legend claims this assembly gathered all existing Masonic records and documents to create the ancient constitutions, the basis for the government of the craft, including therein the fifteen Articles and Points of Agreement.

The York Rite Sovereign College of North America is the Supreme Governing Body for all the colleges within its jurisdiction. As such, it endeavors to promote all those activities which favor the accomplish of its stated purpose. Among these is the rewarding of certain honors for outstanding service.

The Gold Honour Award may be given to a Mason for unselfish and faithful service in any branch of the York Rite; Lodge, Chapter, Council, or Commandery. The recipient of this award need not be a member of a college, nor is it required that he be a member of all the other York Rite Bodies.

The Order of the Purple Cross, the highest honor of the Sovereign College, is conferred upon those members of the college who have distinguished themselves by their service to humanity or to the Rite. The recipients are designated Associate Regents of the Sovereign College, and from their ranks are chosen the Regents or Active Members of the Sovereign College.

The support of Charitable efforts being one of our purposes; the York Rite Charitable Fund USA makes yearly contribution to the following: (last years donations are listed below this article).

Donations can be made to the US Charitable Fund by mailing to YRSCNA, PO Box 368, Denton, NC 27239-0368.

And now, let us be about the work of the College.

Fraternally submitted,  
Joe R. Bush/Grand Governor, Georgia

**YORK RITE CHARITABLE FUND U.S.A.  
Donations made for period 6/1/2024 - 5/31/2025**

Every year the York Rite Office receives requests from members in the United States regarding who the York Rite Charitable Fund U.S.A. supports from the donations received from their members. The Fund does not have a charity of its own, but it supports certain established Masonic Charities. Through your donations The York Rite Charitable Fund USA was able to give the following donations for the 2024-2025 year.

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| Knight Templar Eye Foundation .....                                      | \$2,000.00         |
| General Grand Chapter, RAM (Royal Arch Research Fund) .....              | 2,000.00           |
| General Grand Council (Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation) ..... | 2,000.00           |
| George Washington National Memorial.....                                 | 3,500.00           |
| International Order of DeMolay .....                                     | 2,000.00           |
| International Order of Rainbow for Girls.....                            | 2,000.00           |
| International Order of Job's Daughters .....                             | 2,000.00           |
| KYCH Medical Research Fund .....   | 2,500.00           |
| Masonic Service Relief.....  | 1,500.00           |
| <b>For a total contribution of .....</b>                                 | <b>\$19,500.00</b> |

**WILDERNESS ROAD COLLEGE No. 94  
Blacksburg, Virginia**

On Tuesday, November 11, 2025 Wilderness Road York Rite College #94 conferred the Order Knight of York on four candidates including RW Gino W. Williams, Deputy Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, RW C.R. "Bobby" Curtis, MW Louis K. Campbell, Past Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, RW H.M. "Matt" Reedy. Below is a photo of the Degree Cast and candidates after the 2nd Section of the Order of York. Pictured with the Candidates, Officers, and Cast are RED Brother William F. Reinhold, Grand Governor of Virginia and VED Brother James P. Nunn, Deputy Grand Governor of Virginia.



Also, they were able to present one of their Past Governors with an Athelstan Nobility Award which was purchased by the College on behalf of his work and dedication to the College.

Fraternally submitted,  
D. Cole David

**Attention Grand Governors  
And Secretaries**

Please ensure that all Order of the Purple Cross Nominations are submitted on the correct form (dated at the bottom 10/17). Any nominations received on the previous forms will be returned to the Grand Governor.

OPC Nominations will not be considered without an Annual Report. All OPC Nomination Forms, Service Award Nominations as well as the Annual Returns are due in the Denton Office by July 1, 2026, there will be no exceptions made.

Please ensure that your completed Annual Return contains not only the required paperwork, but it must include all monies due for per capita and new member fees.

If you have any questions, please contact the Sovereign College Office.

*Masonic labor is purely a labor of love.  
He who seeks to draw Masonic wages in  
gold and silver will be disappointed.  
The wages of a Mason are in the dealings  
with one another; sympathy begets  
sympathy, kindness begets kindness,  
helpfulness begets helpfulness.”  
– Benjamin Franklin*

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COLLEGE No. 110  
Los Angeles, California**



On Saturday August 23rd, 2025, Southern California College No. 110 conferred the Order Knight of York upon candidate Vatche Kiwanian. Pictured with candidate, officers and members are Craig Flagtwet, Grand Governor of California and Gary Miller, Deputy Grand Governor of California - South.

Fraternally,  
Harold Kennedy

**2026 CHARITABLE MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS  
Des Moines, Iowa**

**U.S. CHARITABLE FUND**

A Joint Meeting between the Sovereign College Board of Directors and the U.S. Charitable Fund Trustees will be held on Thursday, July 23, 2026 at the Des Moines Marriott Downtown Hotel in the Waterloo room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, immediately following the Board of Directors Meeting. Information will be emailed to all Officers and Trustees prior to the meeting.

The U.S. Charitable Fund will hold a meeting immediately following the Regents and Grand Governors Meeting on Friday, July 24, 2026 in the Des Moines Ballroom on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor. We would like to remind everyone that all USA Associate Regents are entitled to vote and we encourage you to attend the meeting.

**YORK RITE SOVEREIGN COLLEGE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION OF CANADA  
2026 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Greetings Companion Knights and Distinguished Brethren,

The Board of Directors of the York Rite Sovereign College Charitable Foundation of Canada encourages you to actively promote and support our charitable works for the benefit of registered Canadian York Rite Charitable Organizations. We ask for your support. The Charitable Foundation of Canada will be meeting at 4:00 pm on Friday, July 24, 2026 in the Waterloo Room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor at the Des Moines Marriott Downtown Hotel, Des Moines, Iowa.

The York Rite Sovereign College Charitable Foundation of Canada **2026 Annual General Meeting** will be held on Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 12:00 Noon Eastern Daylight Time. This virtual meeting will be held as a "ZOOM" Webinar, all Canadian Regents and Associate Regents are entitled to attend and vote.

To register to participate, please email the Host/Administrator, Distinguished Brother Terry D. Gould, OPC at [terrydgould@gmail.com](mailto:terrydgould@gmail.com). The appropriate meeting information will be emailed to you by July 14<sup>th</sup>.

Donations may be mailed to the Secretary, David G. Walker at 5130 Elliott Sideroad, Midland, ON, L4R 4K3, or sent by e-transfer to: [yrsccfoc@gmail.com](mailto:yrsccfoc@gmail.com)

With your continued support, and that of the 689 Companion Knights of the 25 York Rite Colleges of Canada, during our **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**, the York Rite Sovereign College Charitable Foundation of Canada provided grants of \$40,425 and in the York Rite Sovereign College Charitable Foundation of Canada provided grants in 2025 to:

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| Cryptic Rite Charitable Foundation Inc                  | \$ 8,000.00        |
| Knights Templar Charitable Foundation of Canada         | \$ 6,000.00        |
| Grand Imperial Conclave Charitable Foundation of Canada | \$ 6,000.00        |
| Total   | <b>\$20,000.00</b> |

Thank you for your support!

**NORTHEAST TENNESSEE COLLEGE No. 153  
Johnson City, Tennessee**

Pictured L-R Orville R. Armstrong, RE Chancellor General, Gold Honour recipients Adam Vest, Larry Clark, James Greever, Scott Farmer and Ray Burchfield, Charles Thames, RE Grand Governor of TN, Tim Sutton, Governor, John Cantrell, Secretary

Fraternally submitted,  
John Cantrell



**YORK RITE CRUSADER**

**YORK RITE SOVEREIGN COLLEGE OF NORTH AMERICA**  
**69<sup>th</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY / Des Moines, Iowa / July 22 – 26, 2026**

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Are you a Candidate Yes  No   
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ College No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daytime Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Lady's Name (only if attending): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Masonic Title as of 7/1/26: \_\_\_\_\_

**TRANSPORTATION \* PLEASE LIST DATE AND TIME OF ARRIVAL / DEPARTURE**

I will be arriving by: Air  Car  Train  Bus   
**Arrival:** Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ AM  PM   
 Carrier: \_\_\_\_\_ Flight Number \_\_\_\_\_  
**Departure:** Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ AM  PM   
 Carrier: \_\_\_\_\_ Flight Number \_\_\_\_\_

Reservations with the Marriott Hotel? Yes  No  Date Hotel Reservations made \_\_\_\_\_  
 Reservation made with another hotel? Please note Hotel \_\_\_\_\_

**ASSEMBLY AND MEAL REGISTRATION**

*\*\* Please specify if Special Dietary needs are required \_\_\_\_\_* No. Requested Total Amount

Men's Registration Fee (Only Candidates are exempt) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$35.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**Thursday July 23, 2026**

Tour 1: Bridges of Madison County, John Wayne Musuem, Iowa Quilt Museum (Lunch is included) ..... x \$70.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Welcome Dinner at the Des Moines Scottish Rite Building ..... x \$40.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**Friday July 24, 2026**

K.Y.C.H. Breakfast (Open to all Companion Knights & Ladies) ..... x \$40.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Men's Luncheon ..... x \$47.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tour 2: State Historical Museum of Iowa, Dennis Albaugh Private Chevrolet Car Collection (Lunch is included) ..... x \$70.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Associate Regents' Dinner (Open to all Companion Knights & Ladies) ..... x \$80.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ladies Entertainment (Available to all Ladies following the Associate Regents Dinner) ..... x \$ 0.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday July 25, 2026**

Candidates' Breakfast (Men only) ..... x \$40.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Men's Luncheon ..... x \$47.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ladies' Luncheon (Recognizing the Ladies of the 2026 OPC Candidates) ..... x \$47.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Annual Grand Banquet ..... x \$95.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Late Registration: \$35.00 additional per person if postmarked after June 30 (no guarantees) ..... x \$35.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed (US Funds Only) \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

*Either print and mail the form with payment to the York Rite Sovereign College or use the PayPal link and pay and register online.*

**PLEASE DO NOT DO BOTH.**

To register and pay online use Registration form on the YRSC Website - [yrscna.org](http://yrscna.org):

(Note: PayPal has included fees in the cost of each meal)

Click General Assembly for forms and information.

Make check payable to: York Rite Sovereign College

Mail Reservations to: York Rite Sovereign College  
 PO Box 368  
 Denton, NC 27239

Questions:

Direct any questions to YRSC Office  
 (336) 859-9772 or  
 Email: yrsc1957@windstream.net or yrscalicia@gmail.com

**All registration forms must be received by June 30, 2026. No refunds after July 15, 2026**

**Make hotel reservations with the Des Moines Marriott Downtown (See hotel sheet for hotel info. & rates)**

**YORK RITE CRUSADER**

**YORK RITE SOVEREIGN COLLEGE OF NORTH AMERICA  
69<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY / DES MOINES, IOWA / JULY 22-26, 2026  
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

| <b>Date - Time</b>                             | <b>Event</b>  | <b>Room</b>                 | <b>Floor</b>    |
|--|---|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Wednesday, July 22, 2026</b>                |   |                             |                 |
| 8:30am – 5:00pm                                | YRSC Office (closed setup only, Office Opens on Thursday)   | Cedar Rapid/Council Bluffs  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 9:00am – 5:00pm                                | Registration  | Coatroom                    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 12:00pm – 4:00pm                               | Hospitality Room  | Windows on 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Main            |
| <b>Thursday, July 23, 2026</b>                 |   |                             |                 |
| All Day  | Order of the Purple Cross Rehearsal   | Sioux City                  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 8:30am – 5:00pm                                | YRSC Office (12:00 – 1:00 closed for lunch)   | Cedar Rapid/Council Bluffs  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 9:00am – 6:00pm                                | Board of Directors' Meeting (Causal Dress)  | Waterloo                    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| Immed. after Board Meet                        | Joint Meeting of YRSC Board/US Charitable Trustees  | Waterloo                    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 9:00am – 5:00pm                                | Registration  | Coatroom                    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 9:00am – 2:30pm                                | Tour: Bridges of Madison County, John Wayne Museum<br>Iowa Quilt Museum (Casual Dress) Lunch included           | Main Lobby                  | Main            |
| 12:00pm – 1:30pm                               | Board Lunch   | Rock River Grill            | Main            |
| 12:00pm – 4:00pm                               | Hospitality Room  | Coatroom                    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 6:00pm – 8:00pm                                | Welcome Dinner @ Des Moines Scottish Rite Building  | Assemble in Lobby           | Main            |
| <b>Friday, July 24, 2026</b>                   |   |                             |                 |
| All Day  | Order of the Purple Cross Rehearsal   | Sioux City                  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 7:00am – 8:30am                                | K.Y.C.H. Breakfast (Business Suit)  | Iowa ABCD                   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> |
| 7:00am – 12:00pm                               | Regents' & Grand Governors' Meeting (Business Suit)   | Des Moines                  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> |
| 8:00am – 11:30am                               | Grand Governors/Deputies Workshop (Business Suit)   | Iowa FGH                    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> |
| 8:30am – 5:00pm                                | YRSC Office (12:00pm – 1:00pm closed for lunch)   | Cedar Rapid/Council Bluffs  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 8:30am – 3:00pm                                | Tour: State Historical Museum, Dennis Albaugh Private<br>Chevrolet Car Collection (Casual Dress) Lunch included | Main Lobby                  | Main            |
| 9:00am – 5:00pm                                | Registration  | Coatroom                    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 10:00am – 5:00pm                               | Hospitality Room  | Windows on 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Main            |
| 12:00pm – 1:00pm                               | Men's Luncheon  | Iowa ABCD                   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> |
| 1:00pm – 5:00pm                                | General Assembly (Business Suit)  | Des Moines                  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| Immediately after General Assembly             | US Charitable Fund Meeting (Business Suit)  | Des Moines                  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 3:00pm – 5:00pm                                | Candidate Orientation (Casual Dress)  | Davenport/Dubuque           | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 4:00pm – 5:00pm                                | Charitable Foundation of Canada Meeting (Business Suit)   | Waterloo                    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 6:00pm – 7:00pm                                | Social Hour   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Foyer | 2 <sup>nd</sup> |
| 7:00pm – 10:00pm                               | Associate Regent Dinner/Meeting (Business Suit)   | Iowa Ballroom               | 2 <sup>nd</sup> |
| 8:00 pm – 9:00pm                               | Ladies' Entertainment   | Davenport/Dubuque           | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| <b>Saturday, July 25, 2026(Tuxedo all day)</b> |   |                             |                 |
| All Day  | Order of the Purple Cross Rehearsal (area available for stay)   | Sioux City                  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 7:00am – 8:30am                                | Candidates Breakfast  | Iowa ABCD                   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> |
| 8:00am – 2:00pm                                | YRSC Office   | Cedar Rapid/Council Bluffs  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 9:00am – 2:00pm                                | Registration  | Coatroom                    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 9:00am – 11:30am                               | General Assembly  | Des Moines                  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 9:00am – 11:30am                               | Candidates Orientation  | Davenport/Dubuque           | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 10:00am – 4:00pm                               | Hospitality Room  | Windows on 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Main            |
| 11:30am – 1:00pm                               | Men's Luncheon  | Iowa ABCD                   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> |
| 12:00pm – 1:30pm                               | Ladies' Luncheon  | Iowa E                      | 2 <sup>nd</sup> |
| 12:30pm – 1:30pm                               | Class Photo   | Iowa FGH                    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> |
| 1:30pm – 3:00pm                                | Order of the Purple Cross   | Des Moines                  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 3:00pm – 4:00pm                                | Installation of Officers, Gr. Gov/Dep. Gr. Gov/Regent<br>Regents Emeriti, Past Regent and Honors (if any)       | Des Moines                  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 6:00pm – 7:00pm                                | Social Hour   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Foyer | 2 <sup>nd</sup> |
| 7:00pm – 10:00pm                               | Annual Grand Banquet (White Coat or tuxedo)   | Iowa Ballroom               | 2 <sup>nd</sup> |

**Rooms and times subject to change**

**Thursday & Friday Tours - Des Moines, Iowa**  
**The Tours will meet in the Main Lobby on the First Floor**



**Thursday Tour No. 1 - Explore Madison County, Iowa:** Madison County Covered Bridges, Winterset Iowa. Step into history with the famous covered bridges that inspired *"The Bridges of Madison County"*. Built in the late 1800's, these charming structures are surrounded by scenic countryside and timeless beauty.

**John Wayne Birthplace & Museum**

205 S. John Wayne Dr., Winterset, Iowa. Visit the birthplace of legendary actor John Wayne and explore the largest collection of Duke memorabilia in the world.



**Iowa Quilt Museum:** 68 E. Court Ave., Winterset, Iowa, Experience the artistry and storytelling of quilts from traditional to modern masterpieces.

Lunch is included in this tour and the cost is \$70.00.

We will leave the hotel at 9:15 am, please be in the lobby ready to board the bus no later than 9:00 am, buses return at 2:30 pm



**Friday Tour No. 2 - Discover Iowa's History & Classic Cars, Immersive Experiences \* Group Friendly \* Memorable Stops:** State Historical Museum of Iowa, 600 E. Locust St., Des Moines, Iowa. Dive into Iowa's rich past through engaging exhibits and artifacts. Highlights include: Three floors of interactive exhibits; Civil War & military history collections, Native American and early settler stories, Hands-on learning spaces for groups, Free admission.

**Dennis Albaugh Chevrolet**

**Collection:** Ankeny, Iowa (Private Tour Experience) Explore one of the nation's premier private Chevrolet collections. Highlights include: Rare, vintage & muscle-era Chevrolets, Museum quality restorations, Unique storytelling behind each vehicle, Perfect for car enthusiasts & groups, Tours available by appointment.

Lunch is included in this tour and the cost is \$70.00.

We will leave the hotel at 8:45 am, please be in the lobby ready to board the bus no later than 8:30 am, buses return at 3:00 pm



**Saturday - Downtown Des Moines Farmers Market - on your own**

A short 6 block walk from the Marriott Downtown Des Moines! 300 Court Ave., Des Moines, Iowa Saturdays 7:00 am - Noon.

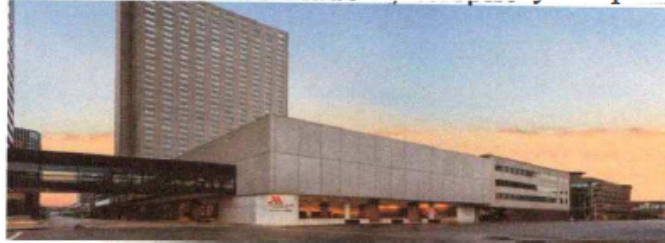
**What's Going on?** Fresh fruits & veggies (super fresh); Homemade baked goods (yes the good stuff), Local honey, jams & meats, Flowers, plants & handmade crafts, Hot food ready to eat, Music, street performers & lots of energy.

**Why should you go?** This isn't just a market - it's a whole vibe. Downtown Des Moines comes alive with hundreds of vendors, great smells, live music and crowds of people just enjoying the morning. Whether you're grabbing breakfast, shopping, or just wandering around, there's something to check out on every block.



**Don't miss it!** Start your morning with coffee, stroll the market, and see what catches your eye. You'll probably leave with something delicious or at least wishing you had more hands.

This years hotel for our 69<sup>th</sup> General Assembly is the Des Moines Marriott Downtown Hotel Reservations can be made by telephone or online.



**Des Moines Marriott Downtown Hotel**

**700 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA**

**Phone: (515) 245-5500**

**Reservations: 1(800)**

**MARRIOTT**

**York Rite Sovereign College of North America**

**July 22-26, 2026**

Here's the reservation link that you can use to make reservations:

*(Note: to open Hotel link just right click the link below then click to open the link)*

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1759770304442&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

**Reservations:** Book your group rate for York Rite Sovereign College of North America online or by calling Reservations at 1 (800) MARRIOTT. To ensure you receive the group rate when you call to place your reservation, please state that you are with York Rite Sovereign College or you may use the link above. All Reservations must be received with a 1st night deposit or be guaranteed by a major credit card.

**Rate: \$179.00 plus applicable taxes per night (US Funds)** Double or King Special room rate is available until **June 30, 2026** or until the group block is sold-out whichever comes first. The special room rate is available **from July 22 - July 26 if room permits** for those wishing to extend their stay.

Unwind in luxury and style at our contemporary Des Moines Marriott Downtown hotel. The Des Moines Marriott Hotel has 413 curated rooms over 33 levels. Rooms are accentuated with scenic views while providing luxurious accommodations. Our hotel puts you near top attractions in Des Moines. The hotel has a fitness center as well as a spectacular outdoor pool for our guests use.



**Room & Suite Features:** Non-smoking luxury hotel, premium linens and plush beds, upgraded Internet access, and a stylish workspace, single-line telephones, and watch your favorite Netflix, Amazon or Hulu shows on our 47inch Smart TV's. **Accessible Rooms:** Accessible rooms are provided for our guests who need ADA features.

Downtown Des Moines offers a vibrant mix of arts, culture, and outdoor activity, anchored by the popular Pappajohn Sculpture Park, the Downtown Farmers' Market (seasonal), and the scenic Principal Riverwalk. Visitors can explore the Historic East Village for shopping, tour the Iowa State Capitol, or visit the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden.



**Parking Fees/Hotel Check in & Out:** Valet Parking - \$38.00 per day, Unlimited In and Out privileges. 9<sup>th</sup> & Locust Parking Garage, 801 Locust Street, offers Public Parking with a Skywalk Bridge to the hotel, call 1 (515) 243-8442 for reservations. The General Assembly Committee requests that you use the Des Moines International Airport. The airport is 5.4 miles from the hotel, while the Des Moines Marriott Downtown Hotel does offer shuttle service, 5am to 12pm every ½ hour and 12 pm to 11 pm every hour for a \$15.00 fee per person. You will need to contact the hotel to make those arrangements. Taxi's. 1. Capital Cab Company, you can reach them and make a reservation at (515) 282-8111. 2. West Cab, you can reach them and make a reservation at (515) 770-1500. 3. USA Cab, you can reach them and make a reservation at (515) 771-5475.

YORK RITE SOVEREIGN COLLEGE  
PO BOX 368  
DENTON, NC 27239-0368

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**FROM THE SOVEREIGN COLLEGE OFFICE  
A FEW REMINDERS  
FOR THE COLLEGE SECRETARIES...**

If your college receives any type of notice from the IRS please send it directly to the Sovereign College Office. The Auditor for the York Rite Sovereign College prepares the 990 for all the Constituent Colleges - **PLEASE DO NOT FILE A 990 FOR YOUR COLLEGE.**

When submitting an article or photo for the Crusader, this can be done through email or regular mail. Do not submit photos which have been reproduced on a copy machine or send photos via fax. The picture is distorted and will not print correctly.

Orders can be sent to the Sovereign College through email, fax, or regular mail. We ask that members please contact the Secretary of your college to place an order.

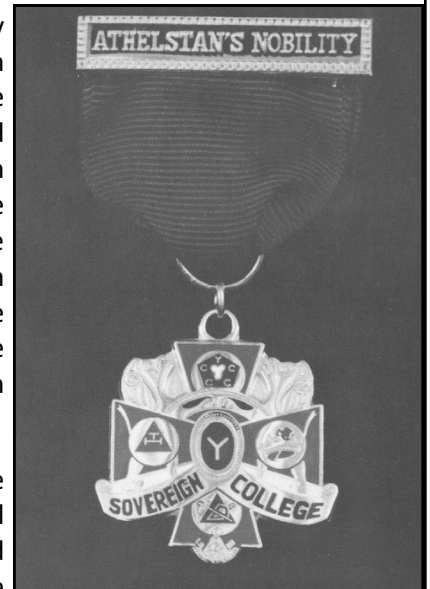
Please remember all our forms are on the website. You may download the forms for your use or you may order them from the Sovereign College, however postage charges will apply.

All By-law amendments, must be submitted on the proper forms and include the signature (approval) of the Grand Governor of the Jurisdiction. If the amendment is not on the proper form and does not have the approval of the Grand Governor it will be returned to the college.

The Denton Office will be closed on the following days in observance of Thanksgiving - November 26 & 27, 2026 Christmas - December 24 & 25, 2026; New Years Day - January 1, 2027. The hours of operation are 8:30 am - 5:00 pm Eastern Standard Time.

**ATHELSTAN NOBILITY JEWEL**

It was created by the York Rite Sovereign College Charitable Fund to be presented to those Companion Knights who contribute \$250.00 or more to the York Rite Sovereign College Charitable Fund U.S.A. or the Charitable Foundation of Canada.



Both Funds are endowment funds. All of the interest and dividends are available

to be used to support the established charities of the York Rite. Your donation is tax deductible.

Donations can be made all at once or you may send in smaller amounts. We will register your donations and as soon as the \$250.00 amount is reached we will issue your jewel.

For members in the U.S.A. please send your donation to the York Rite Charitable Fund U.S.A. at PO Box 368, Denton, NC 27239-0368.

For members in Canada send your donation to the Canadian Charitable Foundation through the Secretary, David G. Walker at 5130 Elliott Sideroad, Midland, ON L4R 4K3.