

Fort Wayne Commandery #4
Knights Templar

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Greetings from the Sir Knights of Fort Wayne Commandery #4. Saturday, January 4, 2014 marked the 90th birthday of Sir Knight James De Mond, Right Eminent Past Department Commander with a luncheon honoring his service and his 55 years of knighthood. Gracing the head table were SK David Pass, Chapter #19 High Priest and Commandery #4 Prelate and his Lady Trudy, SK Tyson Howenstine, Council #4 Illustrious Master, SK William Pond, Commandery #4 Generalissimo and his Lady Camille, SK Edward Fodrea, Eminent Commander and his Lady Christine, and SK James De Mond REPDC and his Lady Patricia. Eminent Commander Fodrea presented awards for 2013: Sir Knight of the Year to SK James Coleman, Distinguished Service Award and Certificate of Merit Award to SK Tyson Howenstine, Ladies Distinguished Service Award to Sarah Gehring and Tamara Carroll and Most Activity Points in Battalion Ribbon to Fort Wayne Commandery #4.

After the delicious roast beef luncheon, birthday cake and awards ceremony, there was the Installation of the 2014 officers including SK De Mond's son-in-law, William Pond, as Eminent Commander. SK De Mond served as Installing Officer, assisted by SK Tyson Howenstine as Warder and SK James Coleman as Prelate. SK Carson Smith was Assistant Marshall and escorted the ladies, bestowing each with a white rose before she pinned the jewel of office on her Knight. SK Kurt Begue performed outstandingly as Marshall, marching the Knights to their positions, calling commands flawlessly, and escorting each to the dais. For those who attended the installation including the officers, family members and long time friends of SK De Mond, a reception was held at the Pond home following the ceremony.

Officers for 2014 include: Sentinel - Brice Herald, Warder - Art Percy III, Sword Bearer - Brian Bianrosa, Standard Bearer - Tim Herald, Junior Warden - Michael Doxsee, Senior Warden - Paul Martin, Recorder - Hank LaHurreau, Treasurer - David Ulrich, Prelate - David Pass, Captain General - John Tuttle, Generalissimo - John Coleman and Eminent Commander - William Pond.

Executing their solemn duties, the Knights performed funeral watch and ceremonial duties on January 9th for fallen comrade and war hero, SK Norbert Parrot who served his community and nation.

The January stated meeting was marked with brainstorming for ideas for the coming year including Knight Templar educational moments, member spotlights and planning for the October Inspection.

Templar winter activities continued with the Grand Commandery Winter Meeting and Newby-Avery Banquet on January 25th and the Tri-State Conclave scheduled for February 22th in Michigan Center, MI and on March 2nd in Bryan, OH.

Overall, the Templar year is off to a rousing start; I am appreciative and humbled by the outstanding support of the Knights and look forward with great joy and anticipation for the coming year.

Installation of Fort Wayne Commandery #4 Knights Templar



Introduction of **Sir Knight James Stewart De Mond, R.E. P.D.C.**

Ladies, Gentlemen, Sir Knights, Distinguished Guests, Family, and especially those who have been friends of Jim and Pat for so long, welcome and thank you for celebrating the 90th birthday of James Stewart De Mond, born this day in 1924 in the home of his grandfather, Frederick W. Stewart, MD (Jim must have a penchant for the cold because his birth was accompanied by a low temperature of 7 degrees that quickly dipped to 7 degrees below zero within the next 24 hours. In fact the town he chose for his birth was even named Coldwater.)

Thank you for coming and braving the elements on this cold winter day. I am Bill Pond, Generalissimo of Fort Wayne Commandery #4 and son-in-law of Sir Knight De Mond, since I married his charming daughter, Camille.

James Stewart De Mond has a rich heritage of masonry dating back 5 generations on both sides of his family to the Grand Lodge of Scotland and the Grand Lodge Francaise in France. He was knighted 55 years ago and he has graciously consented for us today to use the sword of *his* father, SK Raymond John De Mond knighted in 1922. In fact, Jim's earliest recollection of his father is at the age of 3 is when his father entered his bedroom in full Templar regalia.

Matriculating at Michigan State College in 1941, his academic studies were interrupted when he was called in WWII to serve in the European Theater of Operations, concentrating in the areas of England, Scotland and France. Following the war, he returned to Michigan State to complete his studies and graduate in 1948.

And 1948 witnessed an even more important event in his life, the marriage to his wonderful wife, and consummate Masonic hostess, Patricia Ann Bullis of Hudson, Michigan. In fact, they just celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary with the attendance of family members from across the nation.

After the marriage and graduation, James continued graduate studies in anthropology and history for 3 years before beginning, in 1951, a career in transportation with a nationally recognized leader in the industry and then working his way up to a position as director. In fact, even to this day, it is fascinating to ride in the car with him as he gives detailed information on every truck on the road, its capacity, dimensions, limitations, carriage weight along with some interesting stories of how great items have been moved across our country.

After his successful 26 year transportation career, he was called to serve as Executive Director of the Scottish Rite Valley of Fort Wayne which he faithfully served for the next 17 years.

His avocations include fishing and sailing the Great Lakes as well as playing bridge. Believe it or not, Camille and I cruised with Pat and Jim 2 years ago and we could not find them anywhere on the ship, until we found them thoroughly engaged at the bridge tables.

In addition to Freemasonry, his civic activities include service for Trinity Episcopal Church where he has organized the yearly Masonic St. John the Baptist Observance (This year on June 29th at 10:00 am). For many years he was active in Rotary and Scouting, assisting and encouraging his son, Derek Paul De Mond to attain the rank of Eagle Scout. He and I share stories of campouts and Philmont of Troop 419 at Good Shepherd, because it is the same troop at which my son, Scott, attained the rank of Eagle, due in large part to the heritage and foundation laid by Jim and his colleagues 30 years before.

Highlights of his Masonic career include WM Wayne Lodge #25 (1975, 2002, 2003, 2004), Commander Fort Wayne Commandery #4 (1975), Department Commander Grand Encampment Knights Templar, USA (1991-1994), Grand Sovereign United Grand Imperial Council Red Cross of Constantine (1999-2000), Chief Adept Masonic Societas Rosecrusiana in Civitatibus Foederatis (2002-2004)

James Stewart DeMond exemplifies the best in mankind and has touched and enriched each of us.

It is with greatest admiration that we thank him for his service and extend to him our heartiest 90th birthday wishes.

Following are photos of interest:

1. Military service James De Mond in 1942
2. James De Mond 2013
3. James De Mond receiving Lifetime Service Award
4. Eminent Commander William Pond, SK James De Mond, REPDC, his daughter Camille with 1922 heirloom sword of SK Raymond John De Mond.






To all Commodore and his Knights on the face of the globe
"Greeting"
Know Ye, Your World's Commodore and his Knight
James S. DeRosa
Who has unflinchingly and faithfully served our Country for
over 43 years as a leader, mentor and friend to new and old Commodore
and his Knights. We have benefited from your high level of Quality in
Leadership. We are truly blessed to have such a distinguished leader
offering his years of experience and advice.
It is our Honor to stand with this officer and our heartfelt thanks,
this 4th day of January, 2018. As it is our NOAA Birthday today, we wish
for you to share our joy and celebrate your years with the same spirit.
May God Bless You and God Bless America.
We Commend him to all Commodore.

