

THE MASONIC ORDER OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR IN INDIANA



PROCEEDINGS OF THE 170th ANNUAL CONCLAVE OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF INDIANA

*Held in
MUNICE, INDIANA
APRIL 27TH, 2024*

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE**

Held in Muncie, Indiana

**Host
Baldwin Commandery #2
April 27th, 2024**

**Presiding
Sir Knight Randal Ellington, KCT, GPE Right Eminent Grand
Commander**

**Elected
Sir Knight Randy Joe Darling,
Baldwin Commandery #2**

**The 171th Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Indiana will be
held at the
Horizon Convention Center, Muncie IN on April 27th, 2025**

Hosted by Baldwin Commandery #2

Warrant from W. B. Hubbard, General Grand Master of the General Grand Encampment, of the United States, to form a State Grand Encampment for the State of Indiana was dated at Columbus, Ohio, on April 24, 1854.

The Grand Encampment (now Commandery) for the State of Indiana was formed and organized at Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 16, 1854, by the following four Commanderies: Raper No. 1; Baldwin No. 2; Lafayette No. 3; and Fort Wayne No. 4.

APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF REPORTS

All reports contained in the Proceedings of the 170th Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana were approved unless otherwise indicated or explained.



**SIR KNIGHT DAVID J. KUSSMAN, GCT
MOST EMINENT GRAND MASTER,
GRAND ENCAMPMENT
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Sir Knight David J. Kussman, was born in Houston, Texas, on Easter Sunday morning, April 5, 1953. His father, Frederick J. Kussman, Jr. was an active Mason in Texas and later in California. His mother, Hazel E. Kussman, was active in both the Order of Eastern Star and the Social Order of the Beauceant, serving several times as President. Sir Knight Kussman is a graduate of Loara High School in Anaheim, California, and attended Fullerton College and August Vollemer University majoring in Criminal Justice. He received his teaching credential from the University of California in Los Angeles. He completed his ministry studies at Cottonwood Leadership College, School of Ministry and Leadership. Sir Knight Kussman was ordained in 2011 and has served as an associate pastor at Plaza Bible Church in Anaheim and Catch the Flame Ministries, Inc. Sir Knight Kussman is a retired Police Sergeant from the Anaheim Police Department, completing thirty-four years of service.

Sir Knight Kussman was married to Lady Kimberly Ann (Schmidt) Kussman from 1988 until her passing in 2015. They were blessed with three children, two daughters and a son.

His family currently now consists of six grandchildren: three boys and three girls.

Sir Knight Kussman met Lady Kimberly J. Burnett, PSWP, CT, of Columbus, Ohio at the 67th Triennial in Indiana. Ms. Burnett has served as Supreme Worthy President of the Supreme Assembly of the Social Order of the Beauceant. Their friendship has blossomed into a loving relationship and Ms. Burnett will be travelling with Sir Knight Kussman as often as her busy schedule permits.

In the Symbolic Craft Lodge, Brother Kussman was Initiated, Passed and Raised in Mother Colony Lodge No. 750, Free and Accepted Masons of California in 1979. In 1991, Mother Colony Lodge No. 750 and La Miranda Lodge No. 778 consolidated and became La Mirada Lodge No. 750 with Brother Kussman serving as the Worshipful Master. He transferred his membership to Anaheim Lodge No. 207 as an affiliated Past Master. Brother Kussman is also a member of the Southern California Research Lodge and the Southern California Past Master's Association.

In York Rite, Capitular Masonry, Companion Kussman was Exalted in Fullerton Chapter No. 90, Royal Arch Masons, where he served as High Priest in 1987. He was Consecrated in the Order of High Priesthood, served as an Inspector for the Grand Chapter of California, and decorated with the Grand Chapter Meritorious Service Award and Grand High Priest's Distinguished Service Medal.

In York Rite, Cryptic Masonry, Companion Kussman was Greeted in Santa Ana Council No. 14, Cryptic Masons, where he served as Illustrious Master in 1997. He received the Order of the Silver Trowel and served this body as Thrice Illustrious Master. He served the Grand Council as an Inspector and Assistant Director of Ritual. Companion Kussman was decorated with the Grand Master of Ish Sodi Award from the Grand Council and is a Companion of the Secret Vault within the Order of the Secret Vault of the General Grand Council Cryptic Masons International.

In York Rite, Chivalric Masonry, Sir Knight Kussman was Knighted in Fullerton Commandery No. 55, Knights Templar, where he served as Commander in 1986 and 1987. Ordained a member of the Past Commander's Association serving as both Virtual Prior and Actual Prior. He served the Grand Commandery as Inspector and Assistant Director of Ritual. He also served as a member of the Drill Team Committee, serving on three different drill teams. He was honored after seventeen years as Drill Captain Emeritus from Orange County Commandery No. 36. Sir Knight Kussman received the Knight Templar Meritorious Award twice from the Grand Commandery of California and decorated with the Knights Templar Cross of Honor in 2005. Sir Knight Kussman was appointed to the Grand Commandery line in 2002 and served as Right Eminent Grand Commander in 2010-2011. During his term as Grand Commander, California hosted the first Grand Encampment Western States Easter Celebration in Los Angeles. For his efforts, the Grand Encampment Knights Templar, College of Honors, created him a Knight Commander of the Temple.

His service to the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States of America began in 2012, when Grand Master David Dixon Goodwin, GCT appointed him as the Southwestern Department Commander for the 66th Triennium. Sir Knight Kussman was elected Grand Captain General for the 67th Triennium and decorated with the Knight Grand Cross of the Temple. He was elected Grand Generalissimo for the 68th Triennium. In August 2021, Sir Knight Kussman was elected Deputy Grand Master.

Sir Knight Kussman is a member of The Sovereign Order of Knights Preceptor. Ordained a Knight Priest in St. John the Baptist Tabernacle No. LXVI, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, where he served as Preceptor and Registrar. He holds the title of Knight Commander in the Order. He served the Grand College of America, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, twice as Grand Chaplain and is currently serving as Grand First Pillar.

In the York Rite College, Companion Knight Kussman was Initiated into Southern California York Rite College No. 110 and served as Governor in 2005. He was elevated to the Rank of Associate Regent (Order of the Purple Cross). Knight Companion Kussman served the York Rite Sovereign College of North America as Deputy Grand Governor and as Grand Governor of California.

Sir Knight Kussman is a Life Member of Los Angeles Priory No. 27 and Sierra Pacific Priory No. 71, where he served as Prior. Sir Knight was coronated a Knight York Grand Cross of Honor with one quadrant by the Convent General Knights of York Cross of Honor.

He received the degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry in the Valley of Santa Ana, Orient of California. He is a Past Venerable Master of the Orange County Lodge of Perfection and Past Commander of Orange County Council of Knights of Kadosh. He served his Valley for ten years as Chaplain, and on the Investments Committee. Invested with the Rank and Decoration of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour and Coroneted a 33° Inspector General Honorary. Created a Noble in Al Malaikah Temple, Oasis of California, now a member of El Bekal Temple.

In the invitational Masonic orders:

Installed a Knight Companion in St. Croix Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, where he served as Sovereign. Is currently serving the United Grand Imperial Council as Intendant General for the Division of California- Southern. Received and Admitted in California College, Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis, and holds honorary memberships Golden State College and Concordia College. He has received his IX° Grade, having served the High Council as Chief Adept for the three Colleges in California. He is currently serving as High Prelate and Deputy Treasurer General. Cousin Kussman is a Past Excellent Chief of Brian Boru Council No. 38 Knight Masons and was honored with the Order of Brian's Harp. He served the High Council Knight Masons of the United States of America as a Superintendent for California. Charter Member of Signet Council No. 230, Allied Masonic Degrees, where he served as Sovereign Master, and is a recipient of the Red Branch of Eri. Appointed to the progressive line of officers of the Grand Council Allied Masonic Degrees serving currently as Junior Grand Deacon. Awarded the Knight Grand Cross of the Red Branch of Eri. Recipient of the 4th Grade in the Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord. Advanced and Promoted a Knight Companion of the Royal Order of Scotland in the Provincial Grand Lodge of the United States of America. Charter member of Lone Star Chapel No. 45 and a member of Trinity Chapel No. 12, Commemorative Order of St. Thomas of Acon. Initiated into Santa Ana/El Toro Chapter No 250, and Camp William Biehl, Heroes of '76, serving as Chapter President and Camp Commander. Currently serving as Chaplain. Dual Membership with Joseph H. Pendleton Chapter No. 243 and Pasadena Chapter No. 265.

Membership in appendant Masonic orders include:

Made a Fellow of the Grand College of Rites of the United States of America. Currently serving as Grand Chancellor of the Grand College awarded the Knight Grand Cross. On March 12, 2022, a special conclave of the Grand Encampment was convened at which time Sir Knight Kussman advanced by succession and was installed as the 61st Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar, USA.



**INSPECTING OFFICER
SIR KNIGHT DAVID W. STUDLEY,
RIGHT EMINENT GRAND CAPTAIN GENERAL
GRAND ENCAMPMENT,
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

David was born in Longview, Washington on February 2, 1948, Groundhog Day, a source of continued merriment for his family. David is the older of two brothers, sons of William and Verna Studley, now deceased. David graduated from R.A. Long High School in Longview in 1966, attended Pomona College in Claremont, CA, where David majored in Economics, receiving a B.A. Degree in 1970. David also lettered in football for the Pomona Fighting Sagehens, a NCAA Division 3 team (meaning not too impressive), earning All-League honors as a Tight End in his Junior and Senior seasons.

David enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in August 1970, attended basic training

at MCRD San Diego, and was transferred to Active Reserve status in February 1971. David was proud to have served our Country and the Corps during his six years of active reserve duty and was honorably discharged as a Staff Sergeant (E6) in 1976. Along the way, David was assigned for a summer to the staff of Lt. General Lewis Walt, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, on the Presidential Clemency Commission David started law school at Santa Clara University in 1971, receiving a Juris Doctor Degree, summa cum laude, in May 1974. David passed the California Bar in November that year and began working at a midsized San Francisco law firm in December.

After 5 years general civil litigation experience, David joined the Law Department at Dean Witter, a national securities broker-dealer (now Morgan Stanley, a firm it acquired). David eventually rose to the position of Senior Vice President, in charge of litigation in the Western one-half of the United States. David was elected to the Business Conduct Committee of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc., and served as its Chair in the final year of his three-year term. Because David was assigned to teach senior Dean Witter executives about securities law for licensing examinations, David took and passed the General Securities exam and became a licensed stockbroker, although David never sold or recommended investments (so you're smart not to ask for tips).

David's Masonic experience began in 2005 in San Andreas, CA, a lodge near where he and his wife Hallie bought a second home in 1999. David was Master of the lodge for 3 years, and later an Inspector (a job he still holds). David joined the Scottish Rite in 2007 and soon thereafter the York Rite. David served as presiding officer of all 3 York Rite Bodies, some several times, and was admitted to the San Francisco and Golden West Priorities of KYCH. As were many of you, David was invited to serve and actively participates in many invitational York Rite and Masonic bodies, including the Red Cross of Constantine, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, Royal Order of Scotland and Robert the Bruce Association, Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis, York Rite Sovereign College, Knight Masons, Allied Masonic Degrees, and National Sojourners. David holds or has held offices in many of those bodies. David is currently serving as the 163rd Grand Commander of Knights Templar of California.

It was Sir Knight David Studley's honor to be installed Grand Captain General at the Special Conclave of the Grand Encampment in Ft. Wayne, IN. David was elected a Trustee of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation at the Triennial in Indianapolis, IN in 2018 and continues to serve that impactful foundation.

David was married for 31 years to Hallie Matson, his loving and supportive spouse, who died of brain cancer in December 2020. Cancer is a pernicious disease, and we extend our heartfelt support to all those afflicted by this challenge and to their families.

David is blessed with two sons, Brian, who is 43 and lives in a group setting for handicapped adults, and Robert, 41, an attorney in San Francisco, CA. Robert is married to his lovely wife Sarah and they have given him two grandchildren to love, Eliana and Teddy, ages 8 and 6.



**SK MARTIN R. TRENT,
RIGHT EMINENT DEPARTMENT COMMANDER EAST CENTRAL
DEPARTMENT, IN, IL, KY, MI, and OH**

Sir Knight Trent was born in Dayton, Ohio and later moved to Mt. Vernon, Ohio where he graduated from high school. He was awarded Bachelors Degrees in Business Administration and Philosophy from Wittenberg University and he also holds a Masters Degree from the Air Force Institute of Technology.

He has been employed by the U.S. Air Force for more than 30 years and is a Senior Manager in Procurement. He married his high school sweetheart, Bonita, in 1989 and they have 3 grown children (Zeb, Anna, and Katie). He is a member of the First Lutheran Church of Springfield.

In addition to his fraternal pursuits, he enjoys reading, walking, movies, traveling, playing cards, and golf.

Sir Knight Trent was raised in St. Andrew's Lodge No. 619 in 1992, served as Worshipful Master in 1997, and has been Secretary since 1997. He also served the Grand Lodge of Ohio as a District Deputy Grand Master in 2001-2003.

He is a Past Sovereign Prince of Miami Council, Princes of Jerusalem, in the Scottish Rite Valley of Dayton and was coroneted a 33rd Degree Mason in Washington, D.C. in 2013. He is active in the Springfield and Urbana York Rite bodies and is a Knight York Grand Cross of Honour, a Companion of the Secret Vault, and a Knight Commander of the Temple. He served the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Ohio as its Grand Commander in 2018-2019. Sir Knight Trent is also a member of the Tall Cedars, Eastern Star, Shrine, Allied Masonic Degrees, Order of Athelstan, Commemorative Order of St. Thomas of Acon, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, Red Cross of Constantine, and the Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis. He has been a DeMolay Advisor and is a recipient of the DeMolay Legion of Honor. Sir Knight Trent is also active in the York Rite College and has received the Order of the Purple Cross. He holds national level offices in the Royal Order of Scotland and the Supreme Council MOVPER (Grotto) and served as the Most Excellent Great Chief of Knight Masons of the USA for 2021-2022.

S.K. Martin was appointed & installed as the department commander for the East Central Department at the 68th Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America on August 18, 2021

**GRAND ENCAMPMENT, KT, USA
2021-2024 GRAND ENCAMPMENT OFFICERS**

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David W. Studley R.E. Grand Captain General
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Bobby Blackman Simmons R.E. Grand Treasurer
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Lawrence E. Tucker (Judy) R.E. Grand Recorder
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SK Martin R. Trent (Bonita) R.E. Department Commander, ECD
4276 S. Xenia Dr., Enon, OH 45323-1648
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Most Eminent Past Grand Masters

SK James Morris Ward	(1997-00)
SK Kenneth Bernard Fischer	(2003-06)
SK William Howard Koon, II	(2006-12)
SK David Dixon Goodwin	(2012-15)
SK Duane L. Vaught	(2015-18)
SK Jeffery N. Nelson	(2018-21)

Most Eminent Honorary Living Past Grand Masters

SK Thurman Cleveland Pace, Jr. Westfield, NJ
SK Gordon H. Stuart, Mississauga, ON
SK W. Marshall Black, Kentville, NS
SK Larry J. Hostine, Leamington, ON
SK F. Douglas Draker, Arnprior, ON
SK Gerald E. Tetzloff, Sherwood Park, AB
SK Joseph R. Marshall, Surrey, BC
SK Benjamin F. May, Clarksville, TN
SK Christian A. Pajolec, France
SK W. Bruce Pruitt, California



**SIR KNIGHT RANDEL P. ELLINGTON GPE
GRAND COMMANDER 2023-24
GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAL OF INDIANA**

Biography of Sir Knight Randal Ellington, GPE

Sir Knight Randal P. Ellington married to his Lady Dee on October 23rd 2018 and her family has an extensive Masonic background. He was born into a Masonic Family on May 31st, 1970 with his Father Carl being a Member of Cumberland Lodge #726 and his Sister Carla who is a Majority Member of Bethel #67 Job's Daughters and his Brother Roger who is a Senior DeMolay of Cumberland Chapter Order of DeMolay and my Mother Claudine who decided that it was more important that she just wanted to be a Mom and support her family with their Masonic and other endeavors, she did not belong to any Masonic Ladies Organizations but was very involved with the DeMolay Mother's Club and Scouting with both of her son's, Job's Daughters Bethel activities with her daughter Carla and also Home Extension Club, . When Randal turned 13, he was already a Boy Scout, his father and "Dad" Dale Herthel were coffee buddies and his father came home one day with a petition for DeMolay that was signed by Dale's son, Phil Herthel and was informed by his Father that was the way to go.

He was Initiated into the William Hacker Chapter Order of DeMolay in Shelbyville in 1983. He then proceeded up through the ranks and then served as Master Councilor in 1985 for the first time, he had the honor of presenting MWB George R. Tolen, Past Grand Master and also a Senior DeMolay from William Hacker Chapter with his 50yr DeMolay pin at his installation. MWB Tolen was Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge in 1985. He then took a little time off from the Masonic Fraternity and then Farmers Lodge #147 and his mother read in the newspaper that a public meeting talking about re-forming the David Conger Chapter Order of DeMolay in Flat Rock was going to take place. He attended and met Senior DeMolay Roger S. VanGorden, PGM and Russell Hamner, Jr., Treasurer of Farmers Lodge #147 who knew his Father and several other Brothers. He was told by MWB VanGorden that he got to speak about DeMolay since he was the youngest in the group. After attempting to help reform the DeMolay Chapter by initiating members through Franklin Chapter and being involved for a while, he was then asked why he hadn't joined the Lodge by Brother Jeffery Beaver who's son Mike was one of the DeMolay's, he then asked for a petition and then proceeded to join the lodge where he took his Masonic Degree's in 2001. After a failed attempt to reform the David Conger DeMolay Chapter he became more involved with the Franklin Chapter Order of DeMolay and has served on the Advisory Council ever since. Once he joined Farmers Lodge #147 he served in his first office of Senior Deacon in 2002 and became Worshipful Master for the first time in 2005 and then again in 2015.

He has been very fortunate to serve as a twice Past Master, Past Secretary other also Offices and is Farmers Lodge #147's current Secretary. He then petitioned Shelby Chapter #20, Shelby Council #3 and Baldwin Commandery #2 where and took the York Rite Degree's and Order's in a 1 Day Class in 2002. He became active in all 3 York Rite Bodies and he is a Past Presiding Officer of all 3 York Rite Bodies of Shelby County and is currently serving as the Secretary and Recorder of his York Rite. He has been involved and has served the Grand Commandery as a Deputy Battalion Commander since 2005 and was honored to receive the Grand Commandery's Distinguished Service Award in 2005. He is also served Sir Knight Paul A. Cole, PGC as his Grand Prelate in 2011-2012 thereby becoming a Grand Prelate Emeritus and is also a member of the Baldwin Commandery #2 Drill Team.

He met his Lady Dee in 2010 and they were married under the Marvin L. Isley Clock Tower at the Indiana Masonic Home on October 23rd 2018. Brother Marvin not only was from his Lodge and York Rite, but he was also a family relative of his wife's along with several other members of her family on both sides and this was a great way to start our marriage with Family and Freemasonry going hand in hand. Her Son, Robert Gobel's paternal grandfather is also a Past Master of Waldron Lodge #217.

Sir Knight Ellington was appointed to the Grand Commandery Line as Grand Sword Bearer in 2017-2018 by Sir Knight Lawrence Williams, PGC and proceeded through the line as was Elected as Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana for the 2023-2024 year. He was Installed by fellow Senior DeMolay and Sir Knight Duane L. Vaught, GCT, PGM, Most Eminent Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar, USA, Sir Knight George A. Ingles, Jr. PGM, PGC and Past Associate Grand Guardian of Job's Daughters of Indiana, Sir Knight Rodney A. Mann, PGM, PGC and PM of Farmers Lodge #147 and Sir Knight Jackie F. Wallace, PGC and Past Rainbow Pop of Greenwood Assembly Rainbow for Girls, at the 169th Grand Conclave of Knights Templar of the State of Indiana in Indianapolis, Indiana. Past Grand Commander's Wallace and Mann are also members of Baldwin Commander #2.

Sir Knight Ellington is very honored to serve you as the Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana for the 170th Grand Commandery Year!



2023-2024 GRAND COMMANDERY OFFICERS

(FRONT ROW L to R) Mark Elder, GW, SK Scott Sacek, GStB, SK Jon McCracken, GSW, SK Robert Frazer, PGC, GT, SK Dominic Hamblin, GCG, SK Randy Darling, VEDGC,

SK Randal Ellington, GPE, REGC, SK Joseph Sparks, GG, SK Barry Clouser, GP, SK Ed Fodrea, PGC, GR SK Dathan Reed, GJW, SK Doug Patmore, GS_wB, SK Jeffery Prairie, GS

(Back Row L to R): SK Tony Peterson, KCT, KTCH, GM, SK Mitchel Rohrbaugh, A to GC, SK Bruce Scott, DBC, SK John Freeland, A to VEDGC, SK Matthew

McLaughlin, A to Gc,

SK Patrick Briney, DBC SK Dan Patterson, GPE, DBC SK Ron Ross, DBC, SK Rockey Myers, DBC, SK Nathan Ratterman, DBC

**INDIANA GRAND COMMANDERY OFFICERS
2023/2024**

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Randy J. Darling (2) (Penny) Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander
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Grand Sentinel

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Steven J. Barton, KCT, PECDC (9) 1990-91
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James W. Prairie, KCT (63) 1997-98
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Edward E. Fodrea, KCT (4) 2020-22
 11128 Hickory Tree Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46845 (Christine)
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Phillip D. Whisner, PGC, KCT, KTCH (1,39) 2022-23

5528 Greenhill, Pl Apt D, Indianapolis, IN 46237 (Connie)
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GRAND PRELATE EMERITUS

J. William Myers 1460 E. US 20, Angola, IN 46703 (Ruth)	1991-92
Rowland C. Gorman 11525 N. SR 9, Fountaintown, IN 46130 (Carol)	1994-95
Gregory E. Snipes 501 Sunset Dr., Noblesville, IN 46060 (Nancy)	2001-02
James Dimitri 8786 Monroe Street, Merrillville, IN 46410	2002-03
Donald L. Borchert 88 Oakhurst Drive, Munroe Falls, OH 44262 (Mickey)	2005-06
Edward L. Sebring 316 Church St., Vincennes, IN 47374 (Cindy Rider).	2007-08
Byron W. Schull 1242 S. 21 st St., Richmond, IN 47374	2008-09
Jerry O. Deeter PO Box 34, Upland, IN 46989 (Karen)	2009-10
Randal P. Ellington PO Box 335, Shelbyville, IN 46176	2011-12
Harold D. Black 1408 Swinney Ave., Ft. Wayne, IN 46802 (Barbara)	2012-13
Adam E. Jackson, (32) 1700 E. Ann St., Muncie, IN 47303	2014-15
Steven A. Arlington, (28) 807 S. Peral St. Knox, IN 46534 (Rebecca)	2015-16
Charles P. King, (42) P. O. Box 1273, Bedford, IN 47421 (Janel)	2016-17
David Cincoski (12) 114 South15th Street, Chesterton, IN 46304	2017-18
David L. Miller, (1)	2019-20

404 North Mitchner Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46219-5116 (Donna)

Danny Patterson (4)
3702 Temberton Way, Fort Wayne, IN 46815-6553

2020-21



**Sir Knight, Randy Joe Darling; Right Eminent Grand Commander-Elect and
Lady Penny
Invite you to attend the 171st Annual Conclave of
Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana**

**Held at the Horizon Convention Center on
April 27, 2025**

Biography of Sir Knight Darling

Randy J. Darling was born on May 22, 1967, in Cincinnati, Ohio. He went to Arlington High School in Indianapolis, Indiana.

He has been married for 32 years to Lady Penny, they have 3 children and 7 grandchildren.

Sir Knight Darling started his Masonic journey in 2013 after completing his military service in the US Army of 28 years.

He has been Worship Master of Farmers Lodge #147. He has been Commander, High Priest and Illustrious Master of the Shelby County York Rite and is currently the Treasurer for all three bodies.

He is currently the Drill Captain for Baldwin #2 Drill team.



2025-2025 GRAND COMMANDERY OFFICERS

Front Row L to R

Robert Frazer GPC, Jonthan McCracken, Joseph Spark, Randy Darling, Dominic Hamblin,
Dathen Reed, Edward Fodrea, PGC

Back Row L to R

John Freeland, Scott Sacek, Douglas Patmore, Michael Robbins PGC, Mark Elder, Jeffery
Prairie, Barry Clouser

Randy J. Darling (2) Right Eminent Grand Commander
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Joseph L. Sparks (25) Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander
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Phone (765) 376-2734 E-mail: joseph.sparks86@gmail.com

Dominic Hamblin (4) Grand Generalissimo
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Douglas Patmore (15) Grand Standard Bearer
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Mark A. Elder (39) Grand Sword Bearer
(Kelly) 10618 Kensington Ln, Fortville, IN 46040
Phone (317) 850-7132 E-Mail; mark.elder66@gmail.com

Jeffery W. Prairie (2) Grand Warder
(Virgina) 71 W. State Rd 252 Franklin, IN 46131
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John Freeland (62) Grand Sentinel
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317-358-7362 E-Mail saintjohn082@gmail.com

*Proceedings of the
One Hundred Seventh Annual Conclave
of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana*

The 170th Annual Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Indiana, was held at Indianapolis, IN at the Muncie located at the Horizon Convention Center.

On Saturday morning, the Grand Conclave was opened by Sir Knights of Baldwin Commandery #2. Lines were then formed, and the Right Eminent Grand Commander Ellington was received and introduced, he then introduced his officers as listed below:

V. E. Deputy Grand Commander	Randy J. Darling
Grand Generalissimo	Joseph Sparks
Grand Captain General	Dominic Hamblin
Grand Senior Warden	Jonathan McCracken
Grand Junior Warden	Dathan Reed
Grand Prelate	Barry Clouser
Grand Treasurer	Bobby J. Frazer, KCT, PGC
Grand Recorder	Edward Fodrea, KCT, PGC
Grand Standard Bearer	Scott Sacek
Grand Sword Bearer	Douglas Patmore
Grand Warder	Mark Elder
Grand Sentinel	Jeffery Prairie
Grand Organist	Christopher Gamblin

**INTRODUCTION
OF
DISTINGUISHED GUEST**

Past Grand Commanders of Indiana

- Paul Friend
- George Ingles
- Rodney Mann
- Jack Wallace
- Michael Robbins
- Phillip Whisner

Deputy Battalion Commanders

- Robert Henry, DBC
- Dan Patterson, GPE, DBC

Grand Chapter of Indiana

- Joseph Villarreal, MEGHP
- Greg Huber, Captain of the Host
- Brian Lewis, KTCH, KCT Royal Arch Captain

- Roy Wiseman, Grand Master of the 1st Veil
- Shamans Driver, Grand Lecturer
- Steven Snyder, Royal Arch Deputy “A”
- Russ Strong, Royal Arch Deputy “C”
- Joseph Pask, Special Deputy
- James Fairchild, MEPGHP
- Dennis Schraeder, Sr. MEPGHP

Grand Council of Indiana

- James Davis, MIGM
- Todd Carpenter, MIDGM
- W. Keith Stiner, RIPCW
- Max Maupin, PMIGM, Grand Treasurer
- David Ulrich, PMIGM, Grand Recorder
- Frank Capler Jr. RI Captain of the Guard
- Michael Doxsee, MI Conductor of Council
- Michael Bailey RI Grand Stewart
- Ronald Ross, Grand Sentinel
- David Noble, Arch 1 Officer
- Benten Davis, Arch 3 Officer
- Larry Gardner, Arch 6 Officer
- Sean Jones, PMILGM
- James Cantania, PMILGM
- Richard Elman PGM, Grand Secretary HMILGM

Junior Grand Officer of Other Jurisdictions

- John S. Dawson, VEDGC of KY
- Rick Sears, Grand Generalissimo of KY
- Jeromy Emory, KTCH VEDGC of IL
- Don Mayville, GJW. MI
- Michael Hicks, GSW, MI
- James Rufford, Grand Captain General, MI

Past Grand Commanders of other Jurisdictions

- Wilmer Hall, PGC of PA and Grand Rep to Indiana
- Alferd Johnson, HPGC, Grand Recorder of OH

Grand Commanders of Other Jurisdictions

- John Simmons, REGC of TN
- Richard Galland, REGC of OH
- Jay Kennedy, REGC of MI
- Michael Gut, REGC of KY

Grand Encampment

- Steven Barton, PGC of IN, PECDC

- Martin Trent, KCT, ECDC
- Dwayne Vaught, PGC, PGM, PMEGM of the Grand Encampment, Current Grand Preceptor of Grand College of America Holy Royal Arch Templar Priests
- David Studley GCTH, REGCG of the Grand Encampment and Personal Rep of David Kussman, MEGM of the Grand Encampment.

Grand Master of Indiana

- Gray Brimley, Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons of the Grand Lodge of the State of Indiana

After the introductions of Distinguished Guests were complete, Sir Knight Ellington ordered the lines dismissed and thanked them for a job well done. He then declared that Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana Open for the transaction of Business for the 170th Annual Conclave.

WELCOME ADDRESS

To the Officers, Past Grand Commanders, and Members of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Indiana: On behalf of the Officers and Members of Baldwin Commandery #2 we welcome you to the 2023-2024 Session of the Grand Commandery. We hope our Conclave will be both productive and enjoyable. If there is anything we can do for you during this Conclave, please let us know.

Fraternally submitted the Officers and Members of Raper Commandery #1 and Greenfield Commandery #39

RESPONSE TO WELCOME ADDRESS

To the Eminent Commander and Sir Knights of: Officers and Members of Raper Commandery #1 and Greenfield Commandery #39. On behalf of the Officers of the Grand Commandery, all Distinguished Guests, our Ladies and all Sir Knights present, we wish to thank you for hosting the 170th. Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery at Horizon Convention Center in Muncie, IN. We want to extend our sincerest appreciation to the Officers and Members of Baldwin Commandery #2 and Greenfield Commandery #39 for the support they have extended to the Right Eminent Grand Commander Sir Knight Randal Ellington and his Lady Dee during this Templar year. We are certain that everyone in attendance will all enjoy the courtesies and hospitality the Sir Knights and Ladies of Raper Commandery #1 and Greenfield Commandery #39 have planned for this Conclave. Respectfully Submitted, Randy J. Darling, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander.

After the Guests entered the Asylum, REGC Ellington then descended to the floor of Asylum for his Allocation. Deputy Grand Commander Darling then assumed command of the Grand Commandery while the Grand Commander delivered his Allocation as follows:

Allocation

Sir Knights and Ladies, In serving you this year, a great effort was made by of our Grand Commandery Officers to preserve our long standing Knight Templar traditions, we attempted to drive the Grand Commandery into a path that meant a little updating, we

updated the Website and it still needs some more revisions, we created a business card with a UR Code on the back that goes to an electronic petition, we removed the use of the Grand Commanders pin as the logo used on almost all paperwork and used the New Grand Commandry Logo designed by Sir Knight John Bridegroom which was used to “Rebrand” the Grand Commandry Knights Templar of Indiana as an Organization of One and not a Me Organization. Some Documents went out by some of the Grand Officers without the new logo, but hey we were close and it is stepping stones. We obtain Grand Officer Aprons to wear when we are not in our Class A Uniforms to Masonic Meetings and Events like stated Commandry Conclave visitations, the use of them at Chapter, Council, Lodge or other Group events for the Officers of the Grand Commandry to be more recognized. These were purchased at No Cost to the Grand Commandry and donated by myself and I hope they continue to be worn and possibly updated in the future. This was a step in a direction that hasn’t traveled and it has been well received by not only Indiana but also other States want to use aprons like ours, thank you Sir Knight Duane L. Vaught, MEPGM for the inspiration.

The Sir Knights of Baldwin Commandry #2 also purchased a Home of the Grand Commander Banner, designed by Sir Knight John Bridegroom, to be displayed at the Home Commandry of the Grand Commander. It was donated in Honor of Sir Knight Randal Ellington, REGC, Sir Knight Randy Darling, VEDGC and our all of Baldwin # 2’s Past Grand Commander’s as a joint gift to the Grand Commandry Knights Templar of Indiana and hopefully continued to be passed down and displayed in the Home Asylum for each of the succeeding Right Eminent Grand Commander of Indiana for years to come. Thank You to the Grand Chapter and Grand Council for the idea, since they both have a similar banner for the home of their Grand High Priest and Most Illustrious Grand Master.

To all of our Sir Knights of Indiana, the success or failure of our Order is in your hands. The masonic fraternity as a whole is starting to make a revitalization. The success of the local lodges is the driving force for our fraternity and this is within our power to control. As Sir Knights we are actually a Dependent Organization, because we Depend on the Membership of the Lodge, the Chapter and the Council. It is up to us at the local level to make this happen. You must give the membership something other than just paying bills and this starts when you receive the petition. Schedule the Chapter Degrees and then follow through all the way to the Commandry Orders and do the work within your York Rite locally as much as possible. Do not wait for a festival or a one-day class, if you can keep from it, ask for help and help will come.

If you are NOT willing to do the work for the candidate, I ask you, why would you expect your new Sir Knight or Companion to come back and want to the participate in your local York Rite. If you are unwilling to do the work even if you have to read the part, why would a new member want to learn any parts. I say this because even my home York Rite, we have new members and we have to read parts at times, myself included. If you at least have a new member read a part then you are having them participate with the hopes and encouragement that they stay active.

To our newer Sir Knights, you have been told that you are the future of the fraternity, well I am here to tell you that is not true, you are the here and now. There will continue to be a future, but just remember that we are all products of the here and now. If there is something that you want to do....DO IT. If there is something you want to try...TRY IT.

So long as it falls within the “Constitution, Rules, Regulations and Edicts of the Grand Encampment” and the “Constitution, Laws and Regulations” of the Grand Commandery of Indiana.

So the start to my year didn't begin as planned, as we were notified of the passing of Sir Knight Stephen Kroman, KCT, GPE just days after I assumed the Office of Grand Commander, I knew it might be a rough year, my original plan was to make my first official visit after Grand Commandery to my Home Lodge, Farmers Lodge #147 the following week on the first Thursday of the month, but Sir Knight Stephen had different plans, his service were on the First Wednesday and from there it has been a rough year, with Past Grand Commanders asking me when I was going to be out of office, so they don't add to the totals and so on. We have lost to many wonderful Sir Knights of the Grand Commander this year, We have lost 5 Grand Prelate Emeritus's Sir Knight Stephen Kroman, KCT, PGC, Sir Knight Tony S. Peterson, KCT, KTCH, GPE, Sir Knight Ed Sebring, KTC, KCTH, GPE, Sir Knight Thomas Patterson, KCT, GPE and Sir Knight Robert Flint, KCT, GPE along with 2 Past Grand Commander's till the beginning of this month and I really thought that I had cursed the Grand Commandery, as I am a Grand Prelate Emeritus too and when Sir Knight Ronald L. Ellis, KCT, PGC and Sir Knight Michael D. Ritter, KCT, PGC both passed away they both were 50yr+ Senior DeMolay's, I'm a Senior DeMolay, not quite with 50yrs but close with 40+. We then have had the Passing of Sir Knight David Bertch, KCT, PGC, and from what I can tell he wasn't a DeMolay or a Grand Prelate, so Sir Knight Bertch I hope you have broken my curse. My Commandery then had 2 Sir Knights Pass away on the same day, Sir Knight Lewis Hill, Jr and Sir Knight Gary A. Nicholson, KCT. My heart is completely broken over the passing of these Sir Knights and all of the Sir Knights we have lost this year. I hope (as of the writing of this Allocution) that we do not have any more deaths in our Grand Commandery Family, please keep the families of these Sir Knights in your thoughts and prayers.

Well, I have made it this far and is anyone counting yet? Please Stand Up or Raise your hands. I think that is only 3 DeMolay's if I am correct, please correct me if you will but, you can stop counting or you can exit the Asylum. I will wait...I Promise there will be more to come. So, if you decided to stay, maybe one day you make it up here and if so, you then can say what you want, when you want and fortunately or unfortunately as many times you want. For me the Order of DeMolay is why I became a Mason, for you it might be a different reason and I'm sure you have that story and have told it many times to many people and it might be of a masonic origin or not. But this is why I'm standing here today, I'm proud to be a DeMolay and once a DeMolay always a DeMolay and if you don't like that or you think it's funny and want to make a drinking game or a counting game out of it, maybe you need to find a new hobby and at any time you can leave.

So where was I, because if it weren't for the Power of Coffee and my Dad and Dale Herthel, who was a DeMolay Dad and the Father of Phil Herthel who signed my petition, they would almost every morning drink coffee together at the Liars table at Hardees and one day Dad came home with a signed Petition. It was turned in a read, I then took my Degree's, where my Master Counciler was Scott Pike when I joined, he is here today as a Sir Knight, I had the honor of Knighting him, another DeMolay who was also a part in that Degree Team, I also had the honor of Knighting at a Prather Commandery class, you have probably heard of him, his name is Eric Vermeulen, Executive Director of Indiana Masonic Home Foundation, Phil Herthel also went on to hold many masonic offices and

went on to be Most Excellent High Priest of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Indiana. Our DeMolay Chapter was named William Hacker Chapter Order of DeMolay after Sir Knight Hacker who was a Past Grand Commander of this Grand Commander, Past Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council, Past Most Excellent High Priest of the Grand Chapter and also a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Indiana and is known as a 4 Star Masonic General all of which was done in the 1800's, his sword is on the alter today.

So fast forward, if it wasn't for a newspaper article about DeMolay's speaking in Flat Rock and getting lost on the way there and my mom on the phone telling me I was lost and where I was really supposed to be at, because the Lodge was not in Flat Rock it was really in Norristown. When I arrived, I found out that I was the youngest Senior DeMolay in Lodge that was full of unknown people which I had never met. I met Roger S. VanGorden who was in the Grand Lodge Officer Line at the time, a few other men I found later to be Brothers, especially Jeff Beaver whose son Mike was involved, he later asked me, hey if you're going to be involved with our kids and DeMolay why don't you belong to Lodge? I said, where's my petition and the rest are history, good, bad or otherwise. He was my Senior Deacon when I was initiated, I followed him through the Officer Line after that.

After I joined Lodge in 2001, I then was led to the York Rite, thanks to a lot of members of my lodge who belonged to the York Rite and also being encouraged by Phil Herthel to join. So, I did and I progressed through the Lodge line and onto several other Masonic Organizations and through the York Rite Line.

My Masonic Story, more in-depth is in my Biography or some would say Masonic Resume or Obituary which will be listed in the 2023-2024 Proceedings.

A few highlighted events that we have had this year which are part of my 170 plus visitations, meetings or activities. Yup I'm one of those guys that doesn't know what home is called and all of which I did while I was working full time and had a most understanding wife. Thank You to my Lady Dee for understanding and supporting me.

Grand Commandery Summer Picnic

The Grand Commandery Picnic was held on July 22nd at Sunset Park in Shelbyville, IN. We had more than 30 Sir Knights, Ladies and their families in attendance. We had hamburgers, hotdogs, and enjoyed a wonderful pitch-in with games and had a great day of fellowship. Thank you to my Lady Dee and Sister Carla and all who attended and helped out and My VEDGC Sir Knight Darling who was my Co-Grilling buddy for the day!

Levant Preceptory and Indiana DeMolay Degrees

On Friday October 13th, 2023, State Master Councilor Owen Vermeulen and the members of sever Chapters of Indiana DeMolay held the Initiatory and DeMolay Degree's for a Candidate. After the Initiatory Degree was conferred and then prior to the DeMolay Degree, the Sir Knights of Levant Preceptory led by REGC Ellington preformed their Public Presentation Order which in my eyes is a Prequel to the DeMolay Degree. If you have seen both then you would understand. This was only the second time in Levant's history that they have put on this Order on and it was also held on Friday, October 13th 2023 on the 7th floor in the Asylum at Freemasons Hall in Indianapolis. After the Levant Preceptory's presentation, Indiana DeMolay then conferred the DeMolay Degree which is the portrayal of the confinement, trial and

perishing of Jacques DeMolay, the Last Grand Master of the Knights Templar and his Preceptors who was portrayed by State Master Councilor Owen Vermeulen. Thank you to all who attended and made this a wonderful event for both Indiana DeMolay and the Knights Templar of Indiana and Levant Preceptory.

Commandery Christmas Party

The annual Grand Commandery Christmas Party was held December 9th at the Hazel Thompson Coats Indiana Rainbow for Girls Camp in Edinburgh, IN, which is also the location of the Home Lodge of our Right Eminent Grand Commander which is Farmers Lodge #147. It is also former property that the family of Lady Dee once owned prior to it being purchased by Hazel Thompson Coats and then donated to the Indiana Rainbow for Girls. We had a really good attendance of Ladies and Sir Knights with donations collected for the Hospice of South-Central Indiana in honor of Claudine Ellington, Linda and Wray Emerick, the parents of REGC Ellington and his Lady Dee. Myself and Lady Dee supplied the meat for the luncheon and a pitch-in luncheon was held with everyone bringing a cover dish. We had a great Christmas Tradition of a “Dirty Santa” gift exchange that was had along with it getting a little “Dirty” and we also had a “Ugly Sweater” contest. We hope that a great time was had by all!

Newby-Avery-Vaught Banquet

The Newby-Avery-Vaught banquet was held in Muncie and was again open to any Sir Knight and their Lady who wanted to attend the banquet. This event was extremely well attended with over 80 guests in attendance and over five thousand dollars in donations raised to go to the Permanent Fund. Brother Owen Vermeulen, State Master Councilor of Indiana DeMolay or as he would like to say Special Master of Ceremonies for the evening made well thought out and keen introductions and remarks. Sir Knight Duane L. Vaught, MEPGM was our Guest of Honor who gave wonderful remarks. The honorable Toasts were given to our Past Grand Masters of the Grand Encampment Sir Knight’s Leonidas Perry Newby, Willard Meridith Avery and Duane Lee Vaught, Toasts were also given to Our Most Worshipful Grand Master, Our Country and the Office of the President of the United States, Our Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, to All York Rite Masons, to Our Ladies and to the Craft with a Tylers Toast to complete our Toasts. A special display of artifacts from the 1925, 1979 and 2015 Triennials were displayed in honor of Our Most Eminent Past Grand Masters. A Newby-Avery-Vaught Coin was coined and given to our guests as a Thank You! Special Thanks to my Sister Carla and Lady Dee and to all the Ladies and Sir Knights who helped with this wonderful Banquet!

Indiana Templar Academy and Winter Battalion Meetings

The Indiana Templar Academies were held with 3 separate Academies. The Northern Academy was held at Warsaw Lodge #73, the Central Academy held at Bray Commandery #65 and a Southern Academy held at Bedford Commandery #45. The topics of these Academies were, Knights Templar Protocol, Knights Templar Sword Manuel and the Knights Templar Apron. Along with the ITA’s the Winter Battalion Meetings were held at the same locations by Sir Knight Randy Darling, VEDGC for the 2024-2025. Thank you to our Grand Generalissimo Sir Knight Joseph Sparks for taking care of our topics and serving as a presenter along with Sir Knight Carson Smith and Sir Knight John Freeland.

Philanthropies

The Holy Land Pilgrimage Golf DID NOT happen this year due to NO SUPPORT! This was a sad event to cancel especially as a Grand Prelate Emeritus, but since it did not seem to be a priority to support, we did not have it. But the Holy Land Coins that were sold we have raised close to \$2500 in donations to benefit the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund and even more donations were collected with the sales of Add's for the Templar Crusader Magazine, thanks to Sir Knight Joseph Sparks for heading this up. So, we are close to \$6500 in donations for the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund.

The Grand Commander's Personal Challenge Coin were given out to several Active members of DeMolay, Job's and Rainbow along with Advisors in Indiana and all across the United States and the World. It has generated approximately \$7500 in donations that will be donated to each of the Masonic Youth Group. The Job's Daughters design that I created was also used on the York Rite College Coin along with the DeMolay Logo and Rainbow Logo and these coins were sold in Indiana alone with the Colleges of Indiana donating \$10,000 to the Masonic Youth Groups of Indiana and these coins also were sold thought the United States and also made their way to Canada and England. It gave me great pride to know that I had a small hand in raising donations and giving back to our Masonic Youth. Thank You to Most Excellent Companion Greg Raque, Past Most Excellent Grand High Priest of Kentucky for your design of all 3 of these coins and the design of my pin. Without your assistance in making these happen we would now have been able to raise these donations for our Masonic Youth!

Our Knights Templar Eye Foundation 56th Annual Campaign, which is being held from June 1st, 2023 to May 15th, 2024. Sir Knights as of the running of this report the Sir Knights of Indiana have raised \$27,769.04 for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. I am very proud of each and every Sir Knight who has donated during this Campaign, you have done a Yeoman's Job Sir Knights! We are down a little from the previous year but we still have time left before the Campaign ends. Thank you so much for your Donations!

Grand Encampment Easter Vigil and Trip

Sir Knight Randal Ellington, REGC, Lady Dee and Sir Knight Randy Darling VEDGC with Lady Penny were able to travel to Arlington, VA and visit along with lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Solider. Words cannot describe the overwhelming feeling or pride that came over me as Sir Knight Randy Darling, VEDGC who is a Retired United States Army Drill Seargent and the Worshipful Master of my Lodge assisting me with presenting the wreath. We toured Arlington seeing the graves of Brother Audie Murphy's the Most Decorated War Hero which is across from the Tomb of the Unknow Soldier, Brother and General John J. "Black Jack" Pershing who my Great Uncle John Weider was his personal Banner Bearer, we toured the Arlington House and the eternal flame and graves of President Kennedy, Lady Jacqueline and the Kennedy Family, we toured the Arlington House and also several other things especially the COLD Tram rides.

We visited Mt. Vernon, the home of Brother and President George Washington, in Old Town Alexandria and the George Washington Masonic Memorial where we saw several Indiana names and pictures including a picture of Levant Preceptory with Sir Knight Andrew Jackson, PGC at their First Order of the Temple Conferral, PGM Mike Brumback, Past President, PGM Richard Elman and PIGM Gary Wyne, along with Past

Grand Master of DeMolay Internation Keith Klein and a few other Indiana Masons who all I know or have known. We also seen the picture of Howard County Masonic Lodge in Kokomo on display.

After we visited the memorial, we had dinner at in Alexandria at Gadsby's Tavern, were several of our Founding Fathers had visited, including Presidents Jefferson and Washington.

We also stepped out of our comfort zone took the Tram and went downtown Washington, D.C. and walked the mall visiting the Memorials of the Vietnam Wall, World War II, Washington and Lincoln Memorials along with the Reflecting Pool. We enjoyed the cherry blossoms that were still on the trees and a wonderful day.

After all of our visits we attended the Grand Encampment's Banquet hosted by Sir Knight David J. Kussman, MEGM and Lady Kim who presented all of the REGC's Ladies with a pin. We had a wonderful dinner and we were able to visit with several Sir Knights and Ladies including Indiana's own Sir Knight Duane Vaught, MEPGM and Lady Georgia, and Lady Georgia, Scooter Loves you!

Then on Easter Sunday we arrived at the George Washington Masonic Memorial again for the Annual Easter Vigil held by the Grand Encampment.

We were not able to take a bus this year due to prices and also March Madness which had bus companies tied up. One snuck in at the Memorial, but it was Easter Trip or Bust and we made it happen, even though we all said that Sir Knight Tony Peterson had a hand in it, since he wasn't able to go. Thank you to Lady Monica Peterson for all of your assistance in putting the trip together and helping us plan the events.

Thank you again to Sir Knight Randy and Lady Penny who went with Lady Dee and I, we hope you really had as good of a time as we did!

MY RECOMMENDATIONS

1) I recommend that the Grand Commandery continue to hold at least three Indiana Templar Academies or leadership development classes, one in the North, one in the South and one in the Central and that the Grand Generalissimo be in charge of this education.

2) I recommend that the Grand Commandery continue to support the Job's Daughters, the Rainbow Girls and the DeMolay and raise the financial donation from \$250.00 (that has been the same amount for approximately 20years) to at least \$500.00 per organization. This, I support should be in the form of financial, visitation and participation by Grand Officers with the local Chapter's, Assembly's and Bethel's.

3) I recommend that the Elected Grand Officers meet with their counterparts of each of the Grand York Rite Bodies and plan a look to the future to join the Grand Chapter, Council and Commandery back together as a Whole for their Grand Sessions. This would support York Rite Unity and the betterment of the York Rite Craft as a Whole in Indiana.

- 4) I recommend that the Grand Commandery continue to support drill teams – either at individual Commanderies or on a Battalion Basis.
- 5) I recommend the continuance of the Ritual Competition and that this be supported by the Grand Commandery in order to better our Ritual.
- 6) I recommend that the Triennial Committee and the Grand Commandery continue to be financially supportive of the Sir Knights and Drill Teams who will be attending the 2024 Triennial and look towards the 2027 Triennial and look into the revision of the Grand Commandery Law regarding the Triennial.
- 7) I recommend that the Grand Commandery of Indiana needs to have a relationship with the Grand Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star since they make donations to benefit the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. The Eye Foundation committee and Campaign Chairman should be ready to make presentations to raise funds within the Districts of the Order of the Easter Star on behalf of the Eye Foundation. Appearing in uniform would be an asset and a recruiting tool.
- 8) I recommend that the Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander serve as a Mentor to the Grand Sentinel and assist in the mentoring of him in his duties for the insuring year.
- 9) I recommend that the Committee on Membership continue with new ideas and innovations to increasing membership, retention and mentor programs
- 10) I recommend that the Website needs more improvement and updating with proper and up to date information and that the Communications Committee Chairman work with the Web-Master, Grand Commander and Grand Recorder to make updates.
- 11) I recommend that we do not lose sight of raising donations for the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund, whether it be with the sale of Challenge Coin's, Templar Crusader Magazine Add's, Golf Outing or other Donations. This is a means to support Ministers as they make their trip to the Holy Land.
- 12) I recommend that each Commandery strive to become Life Members of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.
- 13) I recommend that the Officers of the Grand Commandery continue the wearing of the Aprons that were donated to the Grand Commandery for the purpose of aligning our Non "Class A" Dress attire with not only the Officers Collar but also with an apron to be worn in meetings or in public while serving as a Grand Commandery Officer in allowing the Officers of the Grand Commandery to look more like Masons.

State of Indiana Templary

There are some very strong Commanderies in Indiana and a few that are still very weak. Having said that, the overall status of Templary in the State of Indiana in my estimation is good.

As of the time of this report we are at 2377 total Sir Knights of Indiana.

Statistics from April 1, 2023 – April 1, 2024

We have had 100 demits from Sir Knights

We sadly have 67 had Deceased Sir Knights
We have had 50 Affiliated Sir Knights
We have Knighted 103 New Sir Knights
We have Reinstated 8 Sir Knights
We have Suspended 37 Sir Knights
We currently have 14 Members awaiting their Knighting
We currently have 2 Petitioners
We have 202 Sir Knights that have received the Award of Gold
We have 264 Sir Knights holding Plural Memberships

Indiana Templar Academy and Winter Battalion Meetings:

The Indiana Templar Academies were held with 3 separate Academies with a Northern Academy held at Warsaw Lodge #73, the Central Academy held at Bray Commandery #65 and a Southern Academy held at Bedford Commandery #45. The topics of these Academies were, Knights Templar Protocol (Sir Knight Joseph Sparks, GG, Knights Templar Sword Manuel (Sir Knight John Freeland, Aide VEDGC) and the Knights Templar Apron, (Sir Knight Carson Smith, Aide VEPGM Duane L Vaught). Along with the ITA's the Winter Battalion Meetings were held at the same locations by Sir Knight Randy Darling, VEDGC for the 2024-2025.

To a few or a lot of Sir Knights and Ladies and My Family that I wish to Thank

To Mom and Dad, obviously I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for you, but I know you both are looking down on me this year and every year. Thank you for your love and guidance as I was growing up and letting me be me and not being afraid to let me do things and guiding me in the right direction. Dad, thanks for being at my Master Mason Degree and Raising me, this memory will always be with me especially when I wear your ring that Mom, Carla and Roger gave me when I was Installed as Worshipful Master for the first time and the one, I'm wearing today, Thank You for my Masonic Heritage! Mom, thank you for carrying me and for all you have ever done for me, thank for escorting me down the aisle 12 years ago today as Grand Prelate, not knowing if you would ever see me as Grand Commander, you always have supported me in every endeavor! Thank you both for everything you have ever done, I will always love you and miss you every day!

To my sister Carla, I don't know where to start, from letting mom take me to your Job's meetings from the beginning, I'm sure you really didn't have a choice. I still get a kick of hearing from some of your Jobies who are now in OES about times when the "Baby" was around. Thank you for all your support when I was in DeMolay and also at Farmers Lodge, York Rite and Grand Commandery, for wanting me to go up the line in OES, when I was Master and Eminent Commander, thank you for all of the Love and Support you have continued to give me and for being my Other Mom. Thank you for always being there for me all these years you also don't know how proud I am of you! Thank you especially this year! I Love You so much!

To Sir Knight Wayne Theobald, RIP, You are MY "Real" Brother, and everything this year is your fault, right wrong or different! You have been my Angel and my Devil's Advocate! From our fight in junior high school to our continued friendship all the rest of your life. You have been there for me when no one else has. When you would call and

you would say that you were in the hospital, I would always say, You Dead Yet. That was our little laugh, to you following me up though the Lodge Line, to you going the York Rite and us Making Pizzas at together and when we joined the Shrine and to the Pizza Booth where to go, to me feeding you, your last meal. You are the only one I visit on a regular basis and you keep me morally right, wrong or indifferent. I can't think of this world without you in it and our lifelong friendship. The only one to make me cry while I have been writing this! Thank you for being for being my Brother and my guide. Continue to Push Up Daisies, I will be by to see you soon! Love Ya!

To My Brother.....well if you hadn't been in DeMolay, I wouldn't have either. Maybe one day we will reconcile or maybe we won't, it's up to you. I just know that MOM is looking down on you and is not very happy!

To My Bothers of William Hacker Chapter Order of DeMolay, we are Bothers and we always will be. We don't always stay in touch, but we try to, whether it be on Facebook, text or even just whenever. We always know that we are there for each other. Mom and Dad were Mom and Dad, it didn't matter which house you were at, you were still home! You are all My Brother's! I love each and every one of you!

To my Brothers of Farmers Lodge #147, Shelby Lodge #28, the Brothers and Sisters of Naamah Chapter #73 OES and the Nobles of the Shelby County Shrine Club, Your Friendship, Brotherhood and Sisterhood over the past several years have meant the world to me, thank you for your understanding if I have been gone and not attending local meetings. Your support for me has not gone unnoticed and you are the reason why I wanted to represent you and serve the Grand Commandery! Farmers Lodge #147, you were my first step into Freemasonry and I thank you to each and every one of the Brother's that I have had the pleasure to meet while being a member of this small country Lodge that I was asked to join. Thank you for being My Home!

To the Companions and Sir Knights and Ladies of Baldwin Commandery #2, Shelby Chapter #20 and Emil L. Steffey Council #3, thank you so much for being here today and for always being there, to assistance over the past years to get to this point, we must remember one down and now one to go and then possibly plan for a couple more a few years in the future. I can't thank each of you enough for all of you have done for myself and my Lady Dee! I know that I may have missed things here too, just know that I appreciate each and every one of you and the support that you have given us, please continue to show this same support to Sir Knight Randy Darling, VEDGC and his Lady Penny next year!

To the Sir Knights and Commandery's of Indiana – thank you so very much for the honor and privilege you have bestowed upon me to serve you as your Grand Commander this year, thank you for all of the Hospitalities you have shown my Lady Dee and my Officers. Thank You for the trust you reposed in me! I will be forever grateful!

To my Past DBC's I know I will miss someone so I won't name names, I just want each and every one of you to know how much I appreciated your support through my travels through the Grand Commandery Line!

To the Current Deputy Battalion Commanders and to all of the Aides, you are what makes the Grand Commandery run, I am so indebted to each of you for all of our dedication to the Grand Commandery!

To the DeMolay's and Advisors of Franklin Chapter Order of DeMolay, thank you for taking me in as an outsider and welcomed me into the Chapter and then was added to the Family. I have seen several of our Senior DeMolay's from this Chapter become Master Masons and have assisted in a lot of their degrees. Several of which have become York Rite Masons, my White Membership Cord (which I still have) is for 3 Knighting's, mine is for 3 Active DeMolay's, one of which is with us today, Sir Knight Jordan Demaree who is also a Past Eminent Commander of Baldwin Commandery #2. Thank you for your Continued Friendship and thank you for being here!

Sir Knight Rodney Mann, PGC, PGM thank you for being one of my Installing Officers and for all you have done for me in Farmers Lodge and in York Rite! Thank you for asking me to be a DBC for the first time! If it wasn't for you getting me involved, I probably would have never been involved!

Sir Knight Duane L. Vaught, MEPGM, thank you for being my Installing Officer and for your friendship and support in the past and especially this year!

Sir Knight George Ingles, Jr, PGC, PGM thank you for being one of my Installing Officers and thank you for your support, friendship and answering the phone every time I called. I so appreciate your friendship and just being George!

Sir Knight Jack Wallace, PGC thank you for being one of my Installing Officers and being a continued driving force at Baldwin #2, you are our Patriarch and we all appreciate you and we deeply miss Lady Shirley!

Sir Knight Phil Herthel, PMEGHP, RIP, thank you for signing my DeMolay Petition over 40 years ago, I never would have been here if it wasn't for our Dad's and You! Love You and Miss You Brother!

Sir Knight Scott Pike, you my Brother and you were my First Master Councilor and you will always be the reason I became a DeMolay! Thank You for everything!

Sir Knight Scott Ferrell and Lady Angie, thank you for all your support and all that you have done for me this past year, Brother Scott I cannot thank you enough for your friendship through all of these years, it all started in DeMolay and continues today, I Love You Brother!

Sir Knight Lawrence Williams, PGC thank you for starting me on this wild journey, everybody can blame you! Thank you for taking a chance on me and appointing me to the line, I hope that I have done you proud and thank you for letting me be part of your Grand Family. I appreciate you Dad, more than you know!

Sir Knight Randy J. Darling, MY VED, I can't thank you enough for Everything you have done for me, you my Brother are the True Meaning of Brotherhood! Good luck to you and Lady Penny and know that Dee and I will always be there. Yes, I know, This is all my fault for helping you out! I will own it even more when you take these red cords!

Sir Knight Joe Sparks, as one of my DBC's it made me proud to see you join the Grand Commandery Line, thank you for your support as one of My DBC's and your continued support as My Grand Generalissimo.

Sir Knight Dominic Hamblin, thank you for everything these past few years that you have been in the Grand Commandery Line. You meet adversity head on and I so admire you for that! I will always be your greatest supporter! You are the one that I can always count on to get the job done and you always take the bull by the horns and won't let go until you get the job completed. I am so happy that you are on the Dais with me as my Grand Captain General, thanks for being my ride last year after the scooter accident! Sir Knight Scooter, thanks his Knight in Shining Armor!

Sir Knight Tony Peterson, GPE, KCT, KTCH Grand Marshal, RIP and Lady Monica, Tony you will always be My Marshal and Sir Knight Everything Else, if it needed to be done, you did it, if you couldn't do it, you got it done, you have been with me this whole year and I know it's your fault we didn't have a bus trip, because you weren't able to go...lol...Fly High Brother, We Miss YOU! I just wanted you to know that we still went and it wouldn't have been possible if it wasn't for your Lady Monica!

To Lady Monica, Thank You for all you have done for Dee and I this year and pasts and continue to do for the Grand Commandery! Thank you for all you help and guidance, you will Always be a part of our Grand Commandery! We Love You!!

Sir Knight Jeffery Prairie, Thank You for being my co-pilot, a DBC, an Aide when I was Deputy and then being my appointment you to the Line. You being a Past Grand Commander's Son, you have some shoes to fill. Thank You Brother, for everything! I know that your Mom and Dad are very proud of you!

Sir Knight Donnie A. Robinette, PGG I wish you would have been along for the ride, thank you for all you have done for me in the past. The Past is THE PAST, come home know that you are welcomed and know that I still appreciate you!

Sir Knight Christopher D. Thomas, you my Brother, I Thank You for being my Aide this year and last, and my DBC my whole time through Grand Commandery Line, going east to west, north to south, I know you haven't been that involved this year and I know why, I just want you to know that I will always be in your debt and you don't know how much! Miss You Brother!

Sir Knight Paul Cole, PGC, RIP thank you for asking me to be your Grand Prelate while we shared a Blondie, I know it was a Consolation Prize, because I was not Grand Commandery Material nor do I know now if I am, I know that you have been looking down on me this year and I can feel your presence and I would continually think all year "What would Paul Do?" I know that I didn't do things as you did but, but you were in my thoughts all along the way! Thank you to Lady Margaret for your continued support and you will always be a part of the Grand Commandery and also Baldwin #2! Love You Lady Margaret

Sir Knight Gary Nicholson, KTCH, RIP and Lady Sally, thank you for all of your support and the Knight Items we have used this year and for your support these last several years

especially this year! You will always be a part of Baldwin Commandery #2 and the Grand Commandery! Love You Lady Sally!

To Sir Knight Ed Fodrea, KCT, PGC, GR Thanks for breaking your arm, just kidding, this year I know would have gone different if you hadn't but we have made it through. I am glad that you are finally on the mend. Thank you and Lady Christine's for your support and help this year. I really appreciate everything you have done for Lady Dee and I this year!

Sir Knight Mike Robbins, PGC, GIG Thank you for your guidance and support all year and keeping me focused and on the right path, I will always appreciate your guidance that you have given me in the past and especially this year!

Sir Knight Steve Barton, PGC, PDC Thank you for being a voice of reason and support, your words never fall on deaf ears, when Steve Speaks, everyone listens. Thank you for your continued guidance!

Sir Knight Matthew McLaughlin and Sir Knight Bruce Scott, thank you for filling in for me this year when needed with your Camera! Thanks for the memories!

To My Officers, Thank you for your support all year and my way through the line, the phone calls, emails, texts and everything! I hope you give VEDGC Darling the same support you have given me and know that I will be forever in debt to each of you for assisting me this year. Thank you for letting me Serve with You!

Thank You to all of the Past Grand Commander's that I have spoken to this year and in years past, I hope that I have done well enough to be welcomed into your Ranks! There are so many that I haven't mentioned above that I wish I could have mentioned you all individually. If it wasn't for a lot of you, I wouldn't be here, thank you for the guidance and support during my time in the line and my time as REGC!

To my fellow York Rite Counterparts, Sir Knight and Companion James Catania, MIPGM of the Grand Council and Sir Knight and Companion Dennis Schraeder, Sr, MEPGHP of the Grand Chapter and especially our Sir Knight and MWB Gary E. Brinley Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, I am proud to have served with each of you and thank you to you all! To Jim and Dennis, thank you for all you have done for the Grand Chapter and Grand Council this past year, especially giving up your time when we have been together to allow me to talk about our Masonic Youth. Thank you for your support of Job's Daughters, DeMolay and Rainbow Girls and all that you have done for them throughout this year in not only the York Rite but the College too! I have valued our Friendship this year and all events we have attended together!

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Gary E, Brinley, MWB Gary, we have known each other for some time and I want to thank you for your friendship. I really is rough to call you Grand Master, especially when I have known you for almost 20 Years as Gary. You will always be My Grand Master and I want to thank you for the honor of serving as one of My Eminent Commanders. I want to extend a sincere thanks for all the opportunities that you have extended to our Sir Knights of Indiana to serve you during your term. I want to thank you for being a York Rite Mason and thank you for your service as Most

Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana from within your heart, you have so graciously presided.

My Fellow Red Cords of the East Central Department, Sir Knight Jay Kennedy, REGC of Michigan, Sir Knight Richard Ganion, REGC of Ohio, Sir Knight Richard Carnall, REGC of Illinois and Sir Knight Michael Yount, REGC of Kentucky and our East Central Department Commander SK Martin R. Trent! Thank you for serving with me this year it has been a pleasure to serve with you and to attend your Grand Conclaves!

To the Masonic Youth of Indiana, I am one of you and it gives me so much pride when I see each of you do your work! It doesn't matter which one of the Organizations you belong to, you do your best to serve your Organization with Pride! Keep up the great work and I hope in the future you will realize how much being in one of these Organization really means and give back to them as they have given to you if you are able.

Ms. Sophia Myers, Grand Worthy Advisor of Rainbow for Girls in Indiana, I'm so very proud of you and all of your Officers and members of Rainbow for Girls in Indiana, good luck at Supreme and serving as Acting Supreme Hope and for speaking at DeMolay Internation last year! You are one in a million and keep smiling, you are going places!

Ms. Keely Roe, Miss Indiana Job's Daughter, I have gotten to know you as a Past Indiana DeMolay State Sweetheart a while ago, you have grown over the years and have done such a wonderful job this year as Miss Indiana, and I heard that I need to wish you luck on your run for Miss International! You Got This!!

Ms. Annabelle Hadley, Miss Internation Job's Daughters, Annabelle, I remember you as a young Jobie, you have grown up with an amazing support system and have served as Miss Indiana and now as Miss International and you are also a Rainbow Girl. You continue to amaze all of your peers and all of the young ladies that look up to you. Congratulations on everything you have done and continue to do for Job's Daughters and Miss Internation, literally the sky is the limit for you and I am so proud of you, keep looking to the stars, they are smiling upon you!

Mr. Owen Vermeulen, State Master Counciler of Indiana DeMolay, thank you and your Officers and Members of Indiana for a job well done this year! You my Brother have had very BIG shoes to fill by having 2 older brothers who were also SMC's and you Dad who had a very stellar DeMolay Career too. You haven't just done that; you got your own pair of shoes! I don't know where to brag on you the most at but hey you were my Special Master of Ceremonies at our Newby-Avery-Vaught Banquet and now you are going to run for International Congress Secretary, you are an outstanding ritualist and you can think on your feet with the best of them and you're a Reds Fan to boot so that is always a bonus! Good luck to you in your future, it is very Bright, can't wait for your Lodge Degree's and hopefully your York Rite Degrees in the Future! I couldn't not have wanted to serve with any other SMC other than you, well maybe a few.... but we won't go there.....

To my Lady Dee, I can't begin how to start to thank you for all you have done for me and what you have sacrificed for me while I have been in the Grand Commandery line! You were put on the Dais for your first Commandery Banquet 12yrs ago yesterday when I

was Grand Prelate and was like what do I do, Lady Margaret led you by the hand and showed you the way. You have stuck by my side for thick and thin with Masonry ever since. This last year I know started out extremely rough and I just want to know how much Dad meant to me! Thank you for sharing Mom and Dad with me and I thank them for all of their support and understanding they had for me and welcoming me into the family. A Special thanks to Robert and Jaelyn, I thank you both for hopefully understanding what this Masonry thing is all about and for supporting me. Robert even if you didn't really know what I have done all these years or why I do it! Thank You for continuing to be a great Step Son, I Thank You and Love You! PS Ellie thanks you and Jaelyn for coming to feed her this weekend!

Dee, once again, I could not have completed this journey through the Grand Commandery line without you! You have been there for those long rides, Out of State visits, the Receptions, Inspections and all of the other events throughout this State. I can't think of being able to do this with anyone else but you! I can't Thank You enough for all you have done for me and loving me for me. I just want you to know that I will always Love You, Forever and a Day!

In concluding my remarks, I know Finally...I want to thank All the Sir Knights of Indiana for having the confidence in me and thank you for the privilege and opportunity to serve you as your Grand Commander this past year. It was indeed an honor and I hope that I have met your expectations. Thank you to the all of the Commandery's for the warm welcomes and wishes whenever my Lady Dee and I had the opportunity to visit you and thank you also for those that extended me Honorary Memberships. The Honorary Memberships mean more than you know!

I have been blessed with Lifetime Membership in the Order of DeMolay since I was 13yrs old, I learned of Jacques DeMolay and the Knights Templars since then. The DeMolay Degree teaches us virtues that are known to the Templars and are taught in Freemasonry today. Thank you, Dad Sherman Land, who is the Founder of DeMolay for creating such a wonderful organization for young men to join and I know one day you would hope that they would follow in their Advisors footsteps and become Masons. Well, I'm one of the lucky ones who did, eventually, and I am standing before you as a Knights Templar and even though I will never be a True Templar, when I put on a helmet, chainmail a tunic and wield a broadsword, it takes me back to when I was as a kid in DeMolay playing with Baldwin Commandery #2's swords and costumes and thinking about what it would be like to be a Sir Knight and serve with the likes of Geoffery de Charney, Hugues de Pairaud, Godfrey de Gonville and Jacques de Molay and be a Real Templar, well I will not ever make it, but put on that Helmet lash on that Broadsword, wear the Chainmail of Armor, yeah I can feel a little like a Real Templar!

To my Jurisprudence Committee, I'm sorry for such a long Allocution and that you have to report on it, but I once was told before I joined this line that I needed to shorten my Masonic Youth Report because Jurisprudence had to read it. Just FYI to the Past Jurisprudence Committee members who thought and or said this, I haven't forgotten that comment and thank you to the several PGC's who told me NOT to shorten my reports, give the Sir Knights something to read, remind them that there are 3 separate Youth Organizations and you can't just sum up everything about them in a paragraph or two or even one page and if you do then you are not doing them justice. I would not say that

this is paybacks, but I would say that this my due diligence and my contribution to the Grand Commandery of Indiana and thank those past members for my long report!

Well after that being said, So far, I have made it through all the tears that I have shed in writing this Allocution. I still have a have a week or so to go, then off to Jurisprudence meeting and if I make it through that then on to the Devine Service and Outgoing Banquet. As long as I make it through that, then on to the Grand Conclave where I get to read part of this. Don't worry, it won't be all, just part of it.

But as of right now, I am living proof that this Grand Commandery doesn't always eat their own!

I hope that I have served you and this Grand Commandery well this year! I hope that we continue to practice the art of spreading the cement of Brotherly Love and Friendship. That cement that continues to bind us to this Order and to each other, now and forever more. Those precious moments of closeness and respect that we experience as Sir Knights, is what helps us to enjoy being a Knights Templar. We really need to work on York Rite Unity and Harmony, it should be more about our Constituent Companions and Sir Knights than it is about the Grand lines. We need to fix this!

12 years ago, today I heard this quote and I reread it again this week when I was getting ideas for my Allocution.

To Quote Sir Knight Paul Allen Cole, KCT, PGC I could not put this into words any better than what he did, because I know these were words from his heart, his love for Templary was worn on his sleeve and was always spoken from his heart!

God bless this Valiant and Magnanimous Order of the Temple, this Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Indiana, God bless each of you and all your loved ones and God bless all Sir Knights wheresoever dispersed.

Sincerely and Fraternaly Yours in His Name,

Sir Knight Randal P. Ellington
Grand Prelate Emeritus
Right Eminent Grand Commander
Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana

P.S. For those of you if you are still counting, what's my number? Come see me if you wish for a special gift!

Biography:

Sir Knight Randal P. Ellington is married to his Lady Dee on October 23rd 2018 and her family has an extensive Masonic background. He was born into a Masonic Family on May 31st, 1970 with his Father Carl being a Member of Cumberland Lodge #726 and his Sister Carla who is a Majority Member of Bethel #67 Job's Daughters and his Brother Roger who is a Senior DeMolay of Cumberland Chapter Order of DeMolay and my Mother Claudine who decided that it was more important that she just wanted to be a

Mom and support her family with their Masonic and other endeavors, she did not belong to any Masonic Ladies Organizations but was very involved with the DeMolay Mother's Club and Scouting with both of her son's, Job's Daughters Bethel activities with her daughter Carla and also Home Extension Club, . When Randal turned 13, he was already a Boy Scout, his father and "Dad" Dale Herthel were coffee buddies and his father came home one day with a petition for DeMolay that was signed by Dale's son, Phil Herthel and was informed by his Father that was the way to go. He was Initiated into the William Hacker Chapter Order of DeMolay in Shelbyville in 1983. He then proceeded up through the ranks and then served as Master Councilor in 1985 for the first time, he had the honor of presenting MWB George R. Tolen, Past Grand Master and also a Senior DeMolay from William Hacker Chapter with his 50yr DeMolay pin at his installation. MWB Tolen was Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge in 1985. He then took a little time off from the Masonic Fraternity and then Farmers Lodge #147 and his mother read in the newspaper that a public meeting talking about re-forming the David Conger Chapter Order of DeMolay in Flat Rock was going to take place. He attended and met Senior DeMolay Roger S. VanGorden, PGM and Russell Hamner, Jr., Treasurer of Farmers Lodge #147 who knew his Father and several other Brothers. He was told by MWB VanGorden that he got to speak about DeMolay since he was the youngest in the group. After attempting to help reform the DeMolay Chapter by initiating members through Franklin Chapter and being involved for a while, he was then asked why he hadn't joined the Lodge by Brother Jeffery Beaver who's son Mike was one of the DeMolay's, he then asked for a petition and then proceeded to join the lodge where he took his Masonic Degree's in 2001. After a failed attempt to reform the David Conger DeMolay Chapter he became more involved with the Franklin Chapter Order of DeMolay and has served on the Advisory Council ever since. Once he joined Farmers Lodge #147 he served in his first office of Senior Deacon in 2002 and became Worshipful Master for the first time in 2005 and then again in 2015. He has been very fortunate to serve as a twice Past Master, Past Secretary other also Offices and is Farmers Lodge #147's current Secretary. He then petitioned Shelby Chapter #20, Shelby Council #3 and Baldwin Commandery #2 where and took the York Rite Degree's and Order's in a 1 Day Class in 2002. He became active in all 3 York Rite Bodies and he is a Past Presiding Officer of all 3 York Rite Bodies of Shelby County and is currently serving as the Secretary and Recorder of his York Rite. He has been involved and has served the Grand Commandery as a Deputy Battalion Commander since 2005 and was honored to receive the Grand Commandery's Distinguished Service Award in 2005. He is also served Sir Knight Paul A. Cole, PGC as his Grand Prelate in 2011-2012 thereby becoming a Grand Prelate Emeritus and is also a member of the Baldwin Commandery #2 Drill Team.

He met his Lady Dee in 2010 and they were married under the Marvin L. Isley Clock Tower at the Indiana Masonic Home on October 23rd 2018. Brother Marvin not only was from his Lodge and York Rite, but he was also a family relative of his wife's along with several other members of her family on both sides and this was a great way to start our marriage with Family and Freemasonry going hand in hand. Her Son, Robert Gobel's paternal grandfather is also a Past Master of Waldron Lodge #217

Sir Knight Ellington was appointed to the Grand Commandery Line as Grand Sword Bearer in 2017-2018 by Sir Knight Lawrence Williams, PGC and proceeded through the line as was Elected as Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana for the 2023-2024 year. He was Installed by fellow Senior

DeMolay and Sir Knight Duane L. Vaught, GCT, PGM, Most Eminent Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar, USA, Sir Knight George A. Ingles, Jr. PGM, PGC and Past Associate Grand Guardian of Job's Daughters of Indiana, Sir Knight Rodney A. Mann, PGM, PGC and PM of Farmers Lodge #147 and Sir Knight Jackie F. Wallace, PGC and Past Rainbow Pop of Greenwood Assembly Rainbow for Girls, at the 169th Grand Conclave of Knights Templar of the State of Indiana in Indianapolis, Indiana. Past Grand Commander's Wallace and Mann are also members of Baldwin Commandery #2. Sir Knight Ellington is very honored to serve you as the Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana for the 170th Grand Commandery Year!

Masonic Memberships

Farmers Lodge # 147 F & AM, Past Master, Edinburgh, IN
Shelby Lodge # 28 F & AM, Shelbyville, IN
Schofield Lodge 1818 U.D., Madison, IN
Naaman Chapter # 73 Order of Eastern Star, Past Patron, Shelbyville, IN
Shelby Chapter # 20, Royal Arch Masons, Past High Priest, Fairland, IN
Emil L. Steffey Council # 3, Cryptic Masons, Past Illustrious Master, Fairland, IN
Baldwin Commandery # 2, Past Eminent Commander, Fairland, IN
Baldwin Commandery # 2 Drill Team
Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Valley of Indianapolis, IN
Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery of Research U.D.
Levant Preceptory, Indianapolis, IN
Robert A. Woods Priory # 62, Knight York Cross of Honor, Nashville, IN
St. Andrew Tabernacle No. XXXV, Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priest, Nashville,
IN
St. Bartholomew Council # 295, Allied Masonic Degrees, Columbus, IN
Marvin L. Isley York Rite College # 129, Franklin, IN
Prather Council # 125, Knight Masons, Indianapolis, IN
Grand College of Rites of the United States of America
Sahara Grotto, M. O. V. P. E. R. Indianapolis, IN
Shelby Co. Past Masters and Wardens Club, Past President, Shelbyville, IN
Murat Shrine, Oasis of Indianapolis, Life Member, Indianapolis, IN
Shelby County Shrine Club, Past President, Shelbyville, IN
DeMolay Unit of the Murat Shrine, Past Secretary /Treasurer, Indianapolis, IN

DeMolay

DeMolay Chapter Advisor "Dad", Franklin Chapter Order of DeMolay, Franklin, IN
Priory Advisor, Dale Herthel Priory, Order of DeMolay, Indianapolis, IN
Past Master Councilor and Senior DeMolay, William Hacker Chapter Order of
DeMolay,
Shelbyville, IN
Senior Sir Knight, Jess K. Willard Priory Order of DeMolay, Greenfield, IN

Masonic/DeMolay Awards or Degree's

Grand Prelate Emeritus, Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana
Order of Ebon, DeMolay Priory
Active Legion of Honor, DeMolay
Degree of Chevalier, DeMolay

Representative DeMolay Award
Gold Award, Awarded by Marvin L. Isley York Rite College from the
York Rite Sovereign College of North America
Grand Chapter of Indiana's Anointed High Priest's Degree
Grand Council of Indiana's Thrice Illustrious Master's Degree
Indiana Past Commander's Association
Order of Knights Preceptor
Michigan Past Commander's Association
Royal Order of Zanzibar
Goose – n – Tater
Sword of Bunker Hill
Ancient and Honorable Order of Turtles
Honorary Membership in the Grand Chapter of Indiana
Honorary Membership in the Grand Council of Indiana
Honorary Membership in the Grand Commandery's of Michigan, Ohio, Illinois and
Kentucky

Current Masonic Offices Held 2023-2024

Right Eminent Grand Commander,
Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana
Secretary, Farmers Lodge # 147 F & AM
Secretary, Shelby Chapter # 20, Royal Arch Masons
Recorder, Emil L. Steffey Council # 3, Cryptic Masons
Recorder, Baldwin Commandery # 2, Knights Templar
Primate, Marvin L. Isley York Rite College # 129
2nd Pillar, St. Andrew Tabernacle No. XXXV,
Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priest
2nd Vice President, Shelby County Shrine Club

2023-2024 Visitations, Meetings and Events Attended:

5/3/2023	Honor Guard for Sir Knight Stepen Kroman, KCT, GPE Funeral Service
5/4/2023	Farmers Lodge #147 Stated Meeting
5/8/2023	Shelby Chapter #20 / Emil L. Steffey Council #3 Stated Meeting
5/10/2023	Grand York Rite Zoom Meeting with DGM Brinley, Chapter & Council
5/15/2023	Grand Lodge of Indiana Grand Masters Dinner
5/16/2023	Grand Lodge of Indiana Grand Communication, Arch of Steel for MWGM Gary E. Brinley
5/19/2023	Naamah Chapter #73 OES Stated Meeting and Initiation of Thanie Brisco, WM of Shelby #28
5/22/2023	Baldwin Commandery #2 Stated Conclave
5/24/2023	Funeral Visitation of Sir Knight Ed Fodrea's Father William Fodrea
5/25/2023	Honor Guard for Sir Knight Tony Peterson, KCT, KTCH, GPE Funeral Service
5/29/2023	Shelby County Memorial Day Service
5/30/2023	St. Bartholomew AMD #295 Stated Meeting
5/30/2023	Yorkrite Chapter Order of DeMolay Stated Meeting
6/1/2023	Grand Court of Amaranth Opening Session at The Seasons
6/4/2023	That Other Masonic Pod Cast Episode 26 "Lets Go To College Scooter"
6/9/2023	Grand Chapter Order of Eastern Star Opening Session, Muncie
6/10/2023	Grand Commandery Summer Meeting at Shelby Lodge #28
6/10/2023	Shelby Lodge #28 Breakfast
06/11-16/2023	Baldwin Commandery #2 Pizza Booth Shelby County Fair
6/17/2023	Indiana DeMolay Conclave Banquet and Installation of SMC Owen V. @ Wabash College
6/17/2023	Red Cross of Constantine Ingathering Scottish Rite, Indianapolis
6/21/2023	Naamah Chapter #73 OES Funeral for Phyllis Eberhart
6/21/2023	Crawfordsville Commandery # 25 Stated Conclave
6/23/2023	Indiana Jobs Daughter's Opening Session at The Seasons
6/24/2023	SK John Freeland Wedding Vow Renewal and Arch of Steel @ Pleasant Lodge
6/24/2023	DeMolay International Session at the Netherlands Hotel Cincinnati
6/26/2023	Baldwin Commandery #2 Stated Conclave
7/1/2023	Hancock County York Rite Pizza Booth
7/6/2023	Indiana Rainbow for Girls Grand Assembly at The Seasons
7/10/2023	Shelby Chapter #20 RAM Emil L. Steffey Council #3 Stated Meeting
7/11/2023	Bethel # 135 Bristol, Indiana Stated Meeting and Guardian Council Installation
7/14/2023	Bethel # 32 Indianapolis, IN Installation and Arch of Steel
7/15/2023	Grand Council of Indiana Crypt Rededication
7/16/2023	Franklin Chapter Order of DeMolay Fundraiser

7/17/2023	Johnson County Shrine Club Fundraiser Johnson County Fair
7/17/2023	Vincennes Commandery #20 and Green County #68 Reception @ Vincennes
7/19/2023	Crawfordsville #25 & Greencastle #11 Terre Haute # Reception @ Crawfordsville
7/22/2023	Grand Commandery Picnic Sunset Park Shelbyville
7/23/2023	Robert A. Woods Priory KYCH at The Seasons
7/24/2023	Baldwin Commandery #2 Stated Conclave
07/26-28/2023	Grand Commandery of Illinois Grand Conclave
7/27/2023	Illinois Chapter Sovereign Order of Knights Preceptor
7/27/2023	Illinois Grand Council Thrice Illustrious Master's Degree
7/29/2023	Grand Master Gary E. Brinley Reception, IU Memorial Stadium
7/30/2023	Ransford IMH Chapter #605 Friends Day at Compass Park
8/1/2023	Grant County Commandery #21 Short Form Order of Malta Farmers Lodge #147 Grand Lodge Dedication at the Rainbow Camp
8/3/2023	Hope Lodge #150 Dinner
8/5/2023	Prather Commandery #62 Centennial Reception
8/7/2023	Sahara Grotto Taco Dinner
8/12/2023	Shelby Chapter #20 RAM Emil L. Steffey Council #3 Stated Meeting
8/14/2023	Shelby County Shrine Club Stated Meeting
8/15/2023	
8/18-20/2023	Grand Commandery of Michigan Grand Conclave
8/19/2023	Past Commanders Association of Michigan
8/20/2023	Visit and Tour of Detroit Masonic Temple by REGC Jay Kennedy of MI
8/21/2023	Vincennes Commandery #20 and Green County #68 Inspection @ Vincennes
8/25/2023	Marvin L. Isley York Rite College #129
8/26/2023	Indiana Job's Daughters Pageant @ Mt. Moriah Lodge
8/27/2023	Baldwin Commandery #2 Stated Conclave
9/2/2023	Honor Guard Sir Knight Ed Sebring, KTCH, KCT, GPE Funeral Service
9/5/2023	Grant County Commandery #21 Inspection
9/10/2023	Indiana Masonic Home Festival
9/11/2023	Shelby Chapter #20 RAM Emil L. Steffey Council #3 Stated Meeting
09/17-18/2023	Grand Commandery of Kentucky Grand Conclave
9/18/2023	Golgotha Tabernacle HRAKTP (Kentucky Grand Session)
9/18/2023	Richmond Commandery #8 Reception
9/19/2023	Lavalette #15 and Wright #64 Reception at Write #64 Commandery
9/20/2023	Grand Chapter of Kentucky Royal Arch Masons
9/23/2023	Franklin Lodge #107 Fish Fry
9/23/2023	Marvin L. Isley York Rite College #129
9/25/2023	Baldwin Commandery #2, Stated Conclave and Reception

9/26/2023	Noblesville Commandery # 61 Stated Conclave
10/5-6/2023	Grand Commandery of Ohio Grand Conclave Columbus #14 & New Albany #5 Reception/Inspection at New Albany
10/7/2023	Bethel #42 Fall Festival Fund Raiser at the New Albany Fall Festival
10/7/2023	Shelby Chapter #20 RAM Emil L. Steffey Council #3 Stated Meeting
10/9/2023	Indiana DeMolay / Levant Preceptory Program at Freemason's Hall, Indianapolis
10/13/2023	6th District Order of Eastern Star Meeting at Naamah Chapter #73 OES
10/14/2023	Lavalette #15 and Wright #64 Inspection at Write #64 Commandery
10/17/2023	16th Annual Prather York Rite Potentate's York Rite Class Day 2
10/21/2023	Wm G. Bray Special Commander's Reception
10/21/2023	Baldwin Commandery #2, Stated Conclave
10/23/2023	Kokomo #36 and Noblesville #61 Inspection at Noblesville
10/24/2023	Emil L. Steffey Council #3 Council Degrees
10/26/2023	Prospect Lodge Visitation and Pizza Fundraiser
10/27/2023	Fort Wayne Commandery #4 and Huntington Commandery #35 Inspection/Reception at Fort Wayne
10/28/2023	Valparaiso Commandery #28 Inspection and Reception
11/2/2023	Farmers Lodge #147 Stated Meeting and Elections
3	Bedford Commandery # 42 and Bloomington Commandery # 63 Inspection and Reception
11/4/2023	
23	
11/4/2023	Anderson Commandery #32 Reception and Inspection
23	
11/5/2023	Jerry Burns Chapter Order of DeMolay Chapter Chartering Member Initiation
23	
11/11/2023	Indiana Masonic Home Veterans Day Program
023	
11/13/2023	Shelby Chapter #20 RAM Emil L. Steffey Council #3 Stated Meeting
023	
11/15/2023	Funeral Visitation of Sir Knight Brian Hooten's Wife, Lady Debbie Hooten
023	
11/15/2023	Raper Commandery #1 Inspection on the Order of the Temple
023	
11/21/2023	Social Order of Beauceant # Thanksgiving Dinner and State Meeting
023	
11/27/2023	
023	
11/29/2023	Baldwin Commandery #2, Inspection on the Order of Malta Shelby Lodge #28 Past Master's Degree for Sir Knight Ronnie Baxter
023	
11/30/2023	Crawfordsville # 25, Frankfort # 29 & Greencastle # 11 Inspection on the OT
023	
12/1/2023	Pleasant Lodge #134 Past Master Degree for Sir Knight Matthew McLaughlin
23	

12/7/20 23	Farmers Lodge #147 Stated Meeting and Elections
12/9/20 23	St. Andrew Tabernacle No. XXXV, HRAKTP at the Seasons
12/9/20 23	Pleasant Lodge #134 Installation of Officers for Sir Knight Matthew McLaughlin
12/10/2 023	Baldwin Commandery #2 Pizza Booth Winter Take and Bakes
12/11/ 2023	Baldwin Commandery #2 Shelby Chapter #20 RAM Emil L. Steffey Council #3 - 3 Way Installation
12/13/ 2023	Shelby Lodge #28 Installation of Officers for Sir Knight Ronnie Baxter
12/15/ 2023	Naamah Chapter #7 OES Stated Meeting Masonic Youth Donation
12/16/ 2023	Grand Commandery Christmas Party at the Rainbow Camp
12/19/ 2023	Grant County Commandery #21 Installation and Christmas Observance
12/20/ 2023	Jubilee Lodge #746 Installation of Officers for Sir Knight Vance Brewer, WM
12/23/ 2023	Baldwin Commandery Christmas Service at Emmanuel Church of Greenwood
12/27/20 23	Farmers Lodge #147 Feast of St John and Installation of Officers
1/4/2024	Farmers Lodge #147 Stated Meeting Shelby Chapter #20 RAM Emil L. Steffey Council #3 Stated Meeting
1/8/2024	
1/13/202 4	Grand Lodge of Indiana Founders Day at the Scottish Rite
1/13/ 2024	Social Order of Beauceant #90 Installation of Officers, Greenfield
1/16/ 2024	Shelby Chapter #20 RAM Emil L. Steffey Council #3 Stated Meeting
1/20/ 2024	Grand Commandery of Indiana Winter Meeting at the Horizon Convention Center, Muncie
1/20/ 2024	Newby-Avery-Vaught Banquet at the Horizon Convention Center, Muncie
1/22/ 2024	Baldwin Commandery #2, Short form Red Cross and Malta, Order of the Temple
1/27/ 2024	Honor Guard for Sir Knight Marion Crum, PMIGM at the Indiana Masonic Home
1/28/ 2024	Robert A. Woods Priory KYCH at The Seasons
2/1/2 024	Farmers Lodge #147 Stated Meeting
2/2/2 024	Marvin L. Isley York Rite College #129
2/3/2 024	Prospect Lodge Visitation and Pizza Fundraiser
2/5/2 024	Shelby County Shrine Club Board Meeting at Shelby Lodge #28

2/7/2 024	Vincennes Commandery #20, Wright #64 and Green County #68 SF Red Cross and Malta
2/10/ 2024	Indiana DeMolay Dad Wayne Reid Ritual Tournament at the Scottish Rite
2/10/2 024	Indiana DeMolay Sweetheart Dance Arch of Steel at the Scottish Rite
2/12/2 024	Shelby Chapter #20 RAM Emil L. Steffey Council #3 Stated Meeting
2/17/2 024	Grand Commandery Southern Battalion 7 & 8 Winter meeting at Bedford #42
2/21/2 024	Shelby Lodge #28 Stated Meeting
2/26/2 024	Honor Guard for Sir Knight Ronald L. Ellis, KCT, PGC Funeral Service
2/26/2 024	Baldwin Commandery #2, Stated Conclave
3/2/20 24	Tri-State York Rite Festival Commandery Orders at Angola #45
3/2/20 24	Angola Yeoman of York
3/2/20 24	Miss Job's Daughters International Annabelle Hadley's Reception at the Scottish Rite
3/5/20 24	Visitation for Brother Thomas E. Hehman Father of Lady Kelly Elder
3/7/20 24	Farmers Lodge #147 Stated Meeting
3/9/20 24	East Central Department Meeting in Fort Wayne, IN
3/11/2 024	Shelby Chapter #20 RAM Emil L. Steffey Council #3 Stated Meeting and Mark Master Degree
3/15/2 024	Naamah Chapter #73 OES Stated Meeting and Initiation for VEDGC Randy Darling and Lady Penny
3/16/2 024	Grand Council Arch 6 Instructional in Richmond at Wayne Council #10
3/17/2 024	Baldwin Commandery #2 Drill Team Practice Shelby Co Fairgrounds
3/18/2 024	Honor Guard for Sir Knight Michael D. Ritter, KCT, PGC Funeral Service
3/18/2 024	Shelby Lodge #28 Temple Board Meeting
3/20/2 024	Shelby Lodge #28 Stated Meeting
3/23/2 024	Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery of Research Meeting in Vincennes
3/23/2 024	Levant Preceptory Order of the Temple at Vincennes #20
3/23/2 024	Zorah Shrine Griggs Entertainment Fights, Presentation of the Colors
3/24/2 024	Social Order of Beauceant #90 Chili Cook Off, Greenfield
3/25/2	Baldwin Commandery #2, Stated Conclave

024	
3/27/2	
024	Funeral Visitation for Sir Knight John C. Gray, MIPGM
3/27/2	
024	Honor Guard for Sir Knight Lewis C. Hill, Jr
3/27-	
31/2024	Grand Commanders Easter Trip to Alexandria, Va
3/30/2	Grand Encampment Dinner with the MEGM David Kussman and Lady Kim
024	
3/31/2	Grand Encampment Easter Vigil at the George Washington Masonic Memorial
024	
4/4/20	
24	Farmers Lodge #147 Stated Meeting and EA Degree
4/5-	Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Indiana Annual Session at The Seasons
6/2024	
4/6/20	Anointed High Priest Degree of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Indian
24	
4/7/20	Baldwin Commandery #2 Drill Team Practice Shelby Co Fairgrounds
24	
4/13/2	
024	Shelby Lodge #28 Breakfast
4/14/2	Baldwin Commandery #2 Drill Team Practice Shelby Co Fairgrounds
024	
4/15/2	Shelby Chapter #20 RAM Called Meeting Past Master and Most Excellent Master Degree
024	
4/17/2	Funeral Service for Sir Knight Robert Esarey 50+yr York Rite Member of Greenfield #39
024	
4/18/2	
024	Greenwood Lodge #514 Master Mason Degree
4/19/2	Naamah Chapter #73 OES Stated Meeting and Initiation for Sir Knight Nathan Ratterman, DBC
023	
4/20/2	
024	Prather Commandery #62 All Commandery Order Day Baldwin Commandery #2 Drill Team Practice Shelby Co Fairgrounds
4/21/2024	
	Grand Council Cryptic Masons of Indiana Annual Session at the Mariott 21st and Shadeland
4/22/2024	
	Columbus Commandery #14 Stated Conclave Donation of behalf of Sir Knight Ronald L. Ellis, PGC
4/24/2024	
4/25/2024	Frankfort Commandery #29 Reception
4/26-	Grand Commandery of Indiana Grand Conclave at the Horizon Convention Center, Muncie, Indiana
27/2024	

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS COMMITTEE

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Officers, and Sir Knights:

The committee on "Grievances and Appeals" is pleased to say that at time we have nothing to report.

Submitted for the Committee

Steve J. Barton, PGC PDC

- Chair

Charters and Dispensations

Right Eminent Grand Commander, Officers, Past Grand Commanders and Sir Knights all.

This year the Grand Commander has issued four dispensations for Commanderies to operate as a Commandery Under Dispensation.

- Lawrence V. Kaminsky, UD is to be a research and holding Commandery and is not expected to confer the Orders nor receive a Charter.
- Dispensation is hereby granted to Levant Preceptory to operate as a “Craft Club” under the Charter of Raper Commandery #1.
- Appointment Of Treasurer/Recorder Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery of Research U.D.
- I hereby grant Prather Commandery #62 Dispensation to move their Charter to Nine Irish Brothers for the purpose of a Festive Board on January 8th 2024

Fraternally,

Steven Barton, KCT, PGC

Eye Foundation Report Grand Conclave February 29, 2024

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Grand Commandery Officers, Past Grand Commanders and Sir Knights all:

As of February 29, 2024, the Sir Knights of Indiana and the Ladies of the Eastern Star have donated \$24,911.04 to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

Crawfordsville Commandery #25 ranks first in the state with a total donation of \$4,020.00. Indiana currently ranks in 17th place in overall donations for the Grand Encampment.

For information about the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, I direct your attention to the following link KTEF.ORG There you learn about the History of the Foundation. The different partnerships and how to make donations. Please take the time to visit the site. I think you will find it very informative.

To the Sir Knights of Indiana thank you for your donations. Please continue to support this very wonderful philanthropic work.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lawrence Williams, KCT, PGC
State Eye Foundation Chairman

**Lanyard Program Cord Report
Grand Conclave
February 29, 2024**

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Grand Commandery Officers, Past Grand Commanders and Sir Knights all:

This is the report for the Lanyard Cord Program. As of December 28, 2023, we have the following activity:

- 22 – New Topline Signers
- 18 – New Cords Handed out
 - 9 – White
 - 4 – Silver
 - 3 – Gold
 - 1 – Red/Silver
 - 1 – Blue/Silver

To the Recorders, I have been getting questions about why “I have not gotten my cord?” As with any program it is only successful if the necessary information is input into the system. I check the MMS for updates on Knightings on a weekly basis. When I look at the activity for the past week, I have found that occasionally a Sir Knight has been inputted into the system without Top Line Signer being assigned. Please be careful about assigning the Top Line Signers. We do not want to short anyone on what they have earned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lawrence Williams, KCT, PGC
Lanyard Cord Coordinator

Bylaw Committee Annual Report 2024

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Officers of the Grand Commandery of Indiana, Sir Knights all:

Multiple Bylaws and been submitted, reviewed, signed, and sent back to the proper Commanderies at this time. At the time of this report only one Commandery’s Bylaws are still being reviewed.

Fraternally & sincerely,

Randy J. Darling, VEDGC

Grand Commandery Masonic Youth Final Report 2023-2024

To the Officers of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana, Sir Knights All:

The Masonic Youth Groups of Indiana, DeMolay, Job’s Daughters and the Rainbow Girls all are working on putting their 2023-2024 Summer Sessions together.

Indiana DeMolay will hold their Conclave at Wabash College in Crawfordsville TBD

Job's Daughters of Indiana will hold their Grand Bethel Session June 20-23 at The Seasons in Nashville

Rainbow for Girls in Indiana will hold their Grand Assembly at The Seasons in Nashville, TBD

Job's Daughters of Indiana held their 2022/2023 Grand Session at The Seasons in Nashville, IN on June 23rd through June 25th. Grand Bethel Honored Queen Emily P. and Miss Indiana Annabelle H. presiding. Sir Knight Randal Ellington, REGC was in attendance. Miss Gracie Miller, Daughter of Sir Knight David Miller, Jr and Grand Daughter of David Miller Sr was elected as the Grand Bethel Honored Queen for 2023/2024.

Indiana DeMolay held their 2023 State Conclave at Wabash College June 15th through June 18th Brother Owen V. was installed as State Master Councilor, Speedway Chapter Order of DeMolay in Speedway, IN Sir Knights Randal Ellington, REGC and Sir Knight Barry Clouser, GP were in attendance.

The International Rainbow for Girls in Indiana held their 2022/2023 Grand Assembly July 6th through the 9th at The Seasons in Nashville, IN with Grand Worthy Advisor Destiny S. presiding. Miss Sophia Myers was Elected as the Grand Worthy Advisor for 2023/2024 Sir Knight Randal Ellington, REGC had the honor of escorting Miss Destiny under an Arch of Steel. Thank you to all the Sir Knights who were in attendance.

The DeMolay International Grand Session was held in Cincinnati, OH and SK Randal Ellington, REGC was in attendance. Sir Knight and Dad Greg Childs of Indiana and Past Grand Master of DeMolay International was Installed as Grand Treasure. It was a delight to be in attendance as the only Sir Knight in Uniform. Sir Knight David Kussman, MEGM and Sir Knight Lawrence Tucker, Grand Recorder were also in attendance. Dad Terry Peters of California was Installed as Grand Master of DeMolay International. Miss Sophia Myers was a guest speaker and spoke on behalf of Rainbow Internation. **Way to Go, Very Proud of you Miss Sophia!**

The Indiana Job's Daughters Miss and Jr Miss Pageant was held at Mt. Moriah Lodge with SK Randal Ellington, REGC and Lady Dee in attendance. A wonderful Pageant was held with Miss Keely R. elected as Miss Indiana and Miss Gabi C. elected as Jr Miss Indiana fir 2023/2024. Miss Keely R. is also a Past Indiana DeMolay State Sweetheart.

The Grand Commander's Personal Coin which depicted the logos of the 3 Masonic Youth Groups represents not only the Youth Groups but my personal family, my Sister Carla is a Majority Member of Bethel #67 formally in Cumberland, by Brother Roger is a Senior DeMolay from Cumberland Chapter Order of DeMolay and I am a Senior DeMolay of Wm Hacker Chapter Order of DeMolay that was in Shelbyville and a Current DeMolay Dad. These Coins that have been sold this year have raised close to \$10,000 that will be donated to all 3 Masonic Youth Groups. SK Randal Ellington, REGC designed and contributed the logo representing Job's Daughters and it was also used by the York Rite Sovereign College of North America on their Youth Coins that were sold across the United States, Canada and some traveled to England. The coin sales from the Colleges in in Indiana Alone raised \$10,000 for Indiana DeMolay,

Indiana Job's Daughters and Rainbow for Girls in Indiana. I am humbled to have been able to contribute this design on these coins and so proud of the money that they have raised!

The Knights Templars of Levant Preceptory and Indiana DeMolay held a Joint event at Indiana Freemason's Hall on Friday October 13th 2023 to commemorate the 716th Anniversary of the Demise of the Templars. Levant preformed their Public Presentation and Indiana DeMolay held the Initiatory and DeMolay Degrees in honor of Jacques DeMolay and the Templars.

Indiana Jobs Daughter's are very proud to have one of their own to serve as Miss International Jobs Daughter, Miss Annabelle Hadley has travel the globe in support of Jobs Daughter's and had brought her Hoosier Hospitality and Spirit with her where ever she goes. It has been a joy to support Annabelle as she represents Jobs Daughters International. **Very Proud of you Miss Annabelle, Miss International!**

Brother Owen V. State Master Councilor aka Special Master of Ceremonies served as the MC for the Newby-Avery-Vaught Banquet for 2024 and with his ever so charming wit made quick work of the Grand Commandery Officer Line as they were introduced! **Well Done and Very Proud of you Brother Owen!**

Sir Knight Randal Ellington, REGC Served as a Judge for the Indiana DeMolay Dad Wayne Reid Ritual Tournament and that evening several Sir Knights directed by Sir Knight Carson Smith gathered at the Indiana DeMolay Sweetheart Dance at the Indianapolis Valley of the Scottish Rite where the Dignitaries of all 3 Youth Groups were escorted under the Arch of Steel.

Congratulations to the Newly Chartered Jerry L. Burns Chapter Order of DeMolay in Terre Haute, name after Sir Knight Jerry L. Burns and it is Sponsored by Indiana Eastern Star Chapter #43.

Congratulations to Job's Daughters of Indiana on Charting a Bethel that is Under Dispensation in Kentucky and also Welcoming another Kentucky Bethel #18 into Indiana Job's Daughters.

Congratulations to the Grand Bethel of Indiana Job's Daughters on Celebrating their Diamond Jubilee 75th Anniversary 1948-2023 and to Bethel #2 in Terre Haute on their 100th Anniversary.

I would like to thank fellow Sir Knights that are DeMolay Dad's, Sk and Dad Randal Ellington, REGC SK and Dad Barry Clouser, GP, SK and Dad Dathan Reed, GJW and his Lady Mom Teresa, SK and Dad Brian Figueiredo, SK and Dad Craig Huber, Dad Eric Vermeulen, Personal Representing to Dad Terry Peters, Grand Master of DeMolay International, SK and Dad Tom Fallis, Past Executive Officer, SK and Dad Greg Childs, Past Executive Officer and Past Grand Master of DeMolay Internation and Current DI Treasurer. I know I have forgot some but please know that you not forgotten because we continue to have several other Sir Knights that are not named that are involved with all 3 Masonic Youth Groups!

Thank you All who give of your time and your dedication to Rainbow, Job's and DeMolay!

In Closing I would like to leave you with a quote from "Dad" Frank Sherman Land, Founder of the Order of DeMolay in 1919. "How lonely it must be for a boy not to have a man to talk with or a man to provide some type of inspiration and direction." This is why "Dad" Land decided there was a need for an organization where boys would have the opportunity to associate with other boys and a place, they could share common interests, learn responsibility and other skills that would benefit them throughout their lives.

Please keep this quote in mind as you journey around the State of Indiana and might approach one of our Masonic Youths and I encourage you to attend a Masonic Youth Meeting or Activity in the future and become active and please support our Masonic Youth as these Young Adults are our direct Life Line!!!

Thank you to all of the Sir Knights who have traveled to meetings, installations and other events of our Masonic Youth Groups. I hope you know how much it means to me, that you are showing your support, but I hope you know how much more it means to the Masonic Youth that you are showing them your support!

Respectfully Submitted in Christian Masonry,

Dad and Sir Knight Randal P. Ellington, GPE,
Right Eminent Grand Commander – Chairman

Holy Land Pilgrimage
Ministry Report 2024 Annual Report
April 2024

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander Randal P. Ellington and Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of Indiana,

The Holy Land Pilgrimage Ministry Program had no applications turned as of September 30th 2023. I had five Sir Knights ask for applications for their pastors of which I provided with instructions and a deadline that the applications needed to be returned by. I contacted all five Sir Knights on August 1st reminding them that the application deadline was fast approaching. Each Sir Knight that

requested applications contacted their pastors and all decided they would wait until the following year to turn in their applications. I told each Sir Knight that the Grand Encampment usually provides new applications each year with updated pricing around March or shortly after the East Central conference. I informed each Sir Knight that I would send them all the new applications when the Grand Encampment published this document.

REGC Randal Ellington advised this year that he would be in charge of handling all Holy Land Pilgrimage coins and money generated from this fund raiser.

REGC Randal Ellington also advised this year that he would be in charge of receiving and reporting of all funds toward the R. Frank Williams award that is given out at each annual Grand Conclave.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Patterson, GPE
Holy Land Pilgrimage Chairman
Grand Commandery of Indiana

Public Relations & Marketing Annual Report 2023/2024

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, Grand Commandery Officers and Sir Knights all:

Your Public Relations and Marketing committee has enjoyed the opportunity to aid and assist all of your efforts thus far in the 2023/24 year. We will keep an eye on what we could accomplish when presenting Templary to the Sir Knights of Indiana.

We will continue to create marketing materials and promote events such as the Holy Land Golf Outing, Levant Preceptory conferral and Grand Commandery projects, as they happen. We will continue to develop certificates, jewels, coins and pins to support both the Grand Commandery and its fundraising efforts when needed.

We will keep the Sir Knights informed on the protocols set forth by the Grand Commander and the workings of our local Commanderies.

Lastly, we will continue to try to keep a presence in the Indiana Freemason Magazine to ensure the Brethren of Indiana Freemasonry are aware of the York Rite and the Knights Templar.

We will continue to work on updating Grand Commandery printed materials and assisting with the needs of activities or committees. We recommend working to improve the social media presence within the Craft, and to communicate with our members in the best way possible, whatever that technology may be.

On behalf of the entire committee, thank you for allowing us to serve the Grand Commandery and Templary, as a whole. The opportunity to improve the vision and direction of Indiana Templary is an honor, and the goal of improving the impression made

by the Grand Commandery on both its members and the public eye is a laudable one, which we consider a privilege to be a part of.

Courteously,
Joseph L. Sparks, GG – Chairman
Dominic Hamblin, GCG
John Bridegroom, PC
Mark Elder, GW

Membership Committee Report

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, Officers, and Sir Knights All:

Your Membership Committee has worked throughout the State of Indiana in 2023-2024, in the areas of recruitment, retention, development, and invigoration through the modes of ritual, education, fellowship, and community engagement. All these components drive a flourishing membership.

Many Commanderies throughout the eight Battalions have utilized some of the following methods to maintain, or increase, their Templar and York Rite membership:

- Re-invigorated the lines in the several York Rite bodies, including progressive lines
- Increase practices to perfect ritual and tactics to enhance the experience
- Mentorship for Commanders, Officers, current members and new members alike
- Being an active component in local blue lodges
- Having newer members learn a small part of ritual to get them engaged

Along with these methods, the committee offers the following strategies to implement as well:

- Sir Knights who bring enthusiasm, energy and fun to degrees, practices, and meetings!
- Be proud of the uniform and wear it with pride as a Sir Knight.
- In-house degree work, so there is not a delay on getting new candidates through the Orders.
- Visits from all Grand Bodies officers. Our members want to show off what they have been doing regarding Degree work and Orders. This will also help identify where they may need assistance as well. During the Degrees work and Orders, it shows the Candidates that in the York Rite, the “big wigs” are right there at their degrees, if not participating in them as well.
- Keep your experienced leaders engaged by mentoring officers and members. To keep the momentum going forward.
 - All York Rite bodies working together when ritual teams get tough and awarding Honorary Memberships to members of other York Rite’s for their assistance.
- Keep performing KT Flag presentations for the local Blue Lodges and Appendant Bodies as well.

An additional area we’ve found has been also successful, if the Commanderies have the funding is helping with a local Commandery Quartermaster. This would assist with our members due to financial hardships to provide some type of uniform to keep them performing at their peak. When one looks good, they feel good and perform better!!

We thank you for the opportunity to serve the Grand Commandery and Sir Knights of Indiana.

Courteously,

Dathan L. Reed, GJW
Chairman – Membership Committee

MASONIC HOME NATIVITY SCENE REPORT 2023-2024

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander Randal P. Ellington, the Past Grand Commanders, the Grand Commander Officers, Sir Knights and all, the nativity scene at Compass Park has been a staple in the community for many years and many of the residents look forward to seeing it in all its glory every year. With the help and leadership of the young men and Chapter Dads of DeMolay, we will continue this tradition this November. It's an honor for us to be able to work with these young men as they begin their journey in Masonry. As Christians, this scene means everything to us. We look forward to bringing joy to the Masonic Home once again.

Respectfully,

Dominic Hamblin, GCG – Chair
Randal Ellington, REGC, GPE
Jon McCracken, GSW

PATRIOTIC ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

April 2024

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, Grand Commandery Officers, and Sir Knights All:

The following activities were reported to me by the Battalion Commanders since Conclave in April 2023:

Date	Commandery	Activity	Location
5/25/2023	Baldwin	Memorial Service-Flag Ceremony	Shelby County
5/29/2023	New Albany and Bedford	Parade	New Albany
5/29/0223	Angola and Apollo	Flag Presentation	St. Joe. IN
7/6/2023	New Albany and Bedford	Flag Presentation	Salem Lodge # 21

8/1/2023	New Albany and Bedford	Flag Presentation	Blue River Lodge #457
7/9/2023	Kokomo Commandery	Flag Presentation	Kokomo, IN
9/12/2023	New Albany and Bedford	Flag Presentation	English Lodge #622
9/10/2023	Multiple (Grand Commandery Officers)	Parade and Color Guard Detail	Compass Park
10/3/2023	Grant County #21	Flag Presentation	Hannah Lodge #61, Wabash, IN
10/28/2023	New Albany and Bedford	Flag Presentation	Bedford Lodge for Master Mason Degree
11/19/2023	Grant County #21	Flag Presentation	Muncie Order of Eastern Star

If other activities occurred from other Battalions or Commanderies, I apologize for their omission.

Fraternally,

Mark A. Elder
Grand Warder/Battalion VI Commander
Chairman-Patriotic Activities Committee

Triennial Annual Report 2024

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Officers of the Grand Commandery of Indiana, Sir Knights all:

The 69th Triennial Conclave will be held at the Little America Hotel at 500 S Main St, Salt Lake City Utah. The Drill Competition will be held on Saturday August 17, 2024. The location of the Drills is undetermined currently, due to space. The Devine Church Service will be held on Sunday August 18, 2024.

The 69th Triennial Conclave Business will be conducted on Monday and Tuesday August 19th and 20th, 2024, with the Installation of Officers on Wednesday August 21st, 2024.

Fraternally & sincerely,
Randy J. Darling, VEDGC/ Chair

Ritual & Tactics Annual Report 2023/2024

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, Grand Commandery Officers and Sir Knights all:

Your committee on ritual and tactics has reviewed our ritual to its entirety. At this time we have only found some minor grammar errors. There is nothing that will require the membership to vote on at the annual conclave.

Courteously,
Joseph L Sparks, GG – Chair
Dominic Hamblin, GCG
Jonathan McCracken, GSW
Dathan Reed, GJW
Jeffery Prairie, GS
William Short, PC
Phillip Whisner, PGC, KTCH

Templar Crusader Annual Report 2023/2024

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, Grand Commandery Officers and Sir Knights all:

I will continue to support the Templar Crusader magazine for this year. Balance in the checking account ending December 31st 2023 is \$2,987.76.

The 2022/2023 publication was a success with 32 color pages and 18 ads placed. Details of the financials are available upon request.

I have received commitments for 14 full page ads, and 3 half page ads for the 2023/2024 publication. At the time of this report I have received payments of \$1,150.00 bringing the checking account balance to \$4,137.76.

My goal is to have every commandery support this endeavor.

Courteously,
Joseph L Sparks, GG

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander Randal P. Ellington, as we know education and information are extremely important to the further growth of Knights Templar. We as a committee are committed to working on this as the year goes on. We expect the foundation to continue to grow stronger as we as Knights Templar strive to bring forth more help and honor. However, currently there is nothing to report.

Courteously,

Dominic Hamblin, GCG - Chair

Joseph Sparks, GG

Robert Frazier, PGC, KCT, GT

Terry Kehrer, PGC, KCT

Indiana Templar Academy Annual Report 2024

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, Grand Commandery Officers and Sir Knights all:

There were three Indiana Templar Academies held for the 2023-2024 Templar year. They were held in conjunction with the Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commanders winter Battalion meetings.

The first was held in the North at Warsaw Lodge No. 73, 1620 W. Center St. Warsaw, IN 46580-2404 at 10:00 am on Saturday, February 10th, 2024, with 29 Sir Knights in attendance.

The second was held in the South at the Bedford Masonic Temple, 917-1/2 15th St. Bedford, IN 47421-3813 at 10:00 am on Saturday, February 17th, 2024, with 27 Sir Knights in attendance.

The Third was held centrally at Mooresville Lodge No. 78, 800 N. Indianapolis Rd. Mooresville, IN 46158-1154 at 4:00 pm on Saturday, February 17th, 2024, with 27 Sir Knights in attendance.

The topics were as follows:

Welcoming remarks from Battalion Commander

Introduction of the SK Randy Darling, VEDGC

VEDGC remarks and programs regarding 2024/2025

Presentation of the History of the Knight Templar Apron; by SK Carson Smith

Knight Templar Protocol and Practices

Sword Salute and Arch of Steel instruction

Brief introduction of the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross FULL Form opening

Questions and remarks from the floor

Adjourn

Courteously,

Joseph L Sparks, GG

Long Range Planning Annual Report 2024

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Officers of the Grand Commandery of Indiana,
Sir Knights all:

The Long-Range Planning has had informal meetings to discuss and plan for the growth of
the Knight Templars of Indiana.

Fraternally & sincerely,

Randy J. Darling, VEDGC/ Chair

Uniform Committee Annual Report 2024

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Officers of the Grand Commandery of Indiana,
Sir Knights all:

The Uniform Committee has made great progress in the last few years. With the
introduction of the Uniform inspections at the Commander Receptions. The Uniform are
looking better and the information of the placement of the jewels and devices worn in the
correct manner per the Uniform guidance and the Uniform power point on the Grand
Commandery website.

The Uniform Committee will reintroduce the Drill Cord legislation again at the 2024
Conclave.

Fraternally & sincerely,
Randy J. Darling, VEDGC/ Chair

York Rite Leadership Training Report

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Grand Commandery Officers, Past Grand
Commanders and Sir Knights all:

This report gives an overview of the Leadership training program and how to apply. This
program is sponsored by the General Grand Chapter, General Grand Council, and the
Grand Encampment. I have taken the liberty of “copying and pasting” the following from
the website.

Why take the Leadership Training?

- 1.To Build Relevant Skills
- 2.To Share in a Cumulative Experience Pool
- 3.To Holistically Improve Masonry
- 4.It is an Established Program
- 5.It has Premium Material
- 6.It provides Actionable Training

What is the York Rite Leadership Training Program?

The York Rite Leadership organization is a Center of Excellence that delivers executive-

class leadership training and coaching to all masonic leaders wherever dispersed. The current York Rite Leadership Training Program consists of three well-developed courses that are designed to give you the skills to be a better leader of yourself and others.

The three courses are:

100 – Personal Effectiveness 200 – Group Dynamics

400 – Influential Communication

These courses may be attended online (the x01 class) or in-person (the x02 class).

How do I earn the Leadership Award Coin?

The Leadership Award Coin is a prestigious symbol of your commitment to learning and practicing masonic leadership principles.

The coin is given out for completion of the in-person classes. These classes are held at various events and are designated as the x02 classes.

When you attend the 102 you will receive the *Personal Effectiveness* coin segment. Attending the 202 class will earn you the *Group Dynamics* coin segment and attending the 402 class will earn you the *Influential Communication* coin segment.

Online class completion does not earn a coin segment. You must attend an in-person class.

Who should consider this program?

Any member of the Masonic family may participate. We do ask that the youth be mature. For guidance, a young gentleman or lady who is between 14 and 18 and has a mature outlook may be admitted. Admission is always at the discretion of the instructor.

How is the Program structured?

The program consists of three (3) courses, which are titled *Personal Effectiveness* (100), *Group Dynamics* (200), and *Influential Communication* (400). Each course is offered in an online (x01) and an in- person (x02) experience. The in-person classes are held at the Grand Encampment Department Conferences and other events by demand.

Graduation from the program means you have completed at least one class each course, either online or in- person for each course. Keep in mind that there is always more to learn, and you are welcome to repeat any of the classes when they are offered.

Will I receive a certification after completing this program?

You can print a completion certificate for yourself anytime upon completion of each class.

How much does the program cost?

There is no cost for the class itself. If you are attending an in-person class at a conference, there may be a cost required for the conference. You will be responsible for registering for the conference and paying their fee, paying for any meals you wish to have, and your hotel and travel expenses.

How do I apply for the program?

Follow the link below

<https://yorkriteleadership.org/>

Respectfully Submitted,

Lawrence Williams. KCT, PGC
Leadership Training Chairman

GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

2024-2025 Budget

RECEIPTS

2378

Accounting

Number

Total
Budget
\$12.50

Per Capita Dues - Indiana	2378	\$ 29,737.50
Per Capita Dues - Grand Encampment		\$ 21,402.00
Transfer from Life Membership Funds		\$ 1,212.50
K. T. Eye Foundation Assessment		\$ 2,378.00
Knighting Fees		\$ 2,000.00
Total Per Capita Assessments	5200	\$ 56,730.00
Interest earned	5310	\$ -
Permanent Fund / Newby/Avery/ Vaght Donations	4050	\$ 5,000.00
Transfer from Permanent Fund	5407	\$ 20,000.00
DSA Payments	5409	\$ 1,500.00
Grand Conclave Banquet Income	5459	\$ 15,000.00
ITA	5422	\$ -
Miscellaneous	5490	\$ -
DeMolay Sword	4041	\$ -
Easter Sunrise trip	4040	\$ -
Newby Avery Banquet	5480	
		\$ 98,230.00
Income Total		

DISBURSEMENTS

NON-DISCRETIONARY AND SPECIAL ACCOUNTS - 7300

Grand Encampment Per Capita		\$ 21,402.00
K.T. Eye Foundation		\$ 2,378.00
Grand Encampment Per-Capita Total	7310	\$ 23,780.00
Refund of Per Capita	7315	\$ -
Triennial	7320	\$ 3,000.00
Triennial Drill Team Travel	7321	\$ 250.00
DISCRETIONARY	7400	17500
Officers Expenses	7410	\$ 27,000.00
		\$ 100.00
		\$ 1,500.00
Funeral Expenses	7524	\$

250.00

		7550	
	Travel / Misc. Grand Conclave Expenses	7551	\$ 950.00
	Grand Conclave	7559	\$ 10,000.00
Awards 50 year Postage	Grand Conclave Banquet		\$ 15,000.00
Accounting (Audit) / Taxes	Proceedings - Advanced	8171	\$ 600.00
	Proceedings - Annual	8172	\$ 2,000.00
	Drills/Ritual Competition Rental	7553	\$ 600.00
Travel & Meeting expenses	Competition Awards	7554	\$ 1,000.00
	Newby/Avery	7555	\$ 450.00
		7570	\$ 1,000.00
	Checks	7580	\$ -
		7601	
		7620	\$ 300.00
		7625	\$ 500.00
		7651	\$ 800.00
		7652	\$ -
BOND Insurance - Grand Recorder	Newby/Avery Plaques / Pins	7555	\$ -
	Ribbons, Plaques, Trophies	7710	\$ 500.00
Operation Supplies		7705	
Rituals & Shipping			
Uniform		7800	\$ 500.00
PGC Jewels New & Repairs		7920	\$ 250.00
Jewels New & Repairs		7930	\$ 250.00
Awards		7940	\$ 250.00
		7941	\$ -
	ITA Supplies	7855	\$ -
		8100	\$ 7,150.00
Membership Development /Publicity Expense			
Youth Job's Daughters			\$ 250.00
Youth Rainbow			\$ 250.00
Youth DeMolay			\$ 250.00
Youth DeMolay Sword			\$ 250.00

Expense Total	\$ 97,980.00
Surplus / (Deficit)	250

Permanent Fund

MAIN

Beginning Total Value (as of 2/1/23) \$713,247.80

Ending Total Value (as of 2/29/24) \$741,385.72

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Beginning Total Value (as of 2/1/24) \$12,993.72

Ending Total Value (as of 2/29/24) \$13,457.05

NEWBY/AVERY/VAUGHT FUND

Beginning Total Value (as of 2/1/24) \$10,088.63

Ending Total Value (as of 2/29/24) \$10,449.23

AUDIT COMMITTEE'S REPORT

We hereby certify that we have audited the books and records of the Recorder and Treasurer of the GRAND COMMANDERY OF INDIANA correct and in order.

We have reconciled the statement of Fifth Third bank of Indiana and find the amount to the credit of this commandery on December \$29,406.52 as shown in the Treasurer's Report .

We find that all the recorder's receipts have been turned over to the Treasurer totaling \$29,406.52

We find the Financials to be correct.

Courteously submitted.

Name	Date
<u><i>Dominic J. Donohue</i></u>	<u>April 27, 2023</u>
<u><i>[Signature]</i></u>	<u>27 Apr 2023</u>
<u><i>Just Mike</i></u>	<u>4/27/23</u>

Auditing Committee

Annual Statistical Report
01/01/2023 – 12/31/2023

Chartered Commanderies	31
Commanderies UD	<u>1</u>
Total Working Commanderies	32

The following is a recapitulation of membership activity during the reporting period.

Total Number members of last return		2435
Total number KNIGHTED	102	
Total number AFFILIATED	73	
Total number REINSTATED	10	
Total number ADD ADJUSTMENT	<u>0</u>	
Total Gain		185
Total number DEMITTED	110	
Total number SUSPENDED/EXPELLED	46	
Total number DECEASED	80	
Total number DELETE ADJUSTMENT	<u>0</u>	
Total Loss		(236)
Net Gain (Net Loss)		(51)
Total number of members (Including Duel and Plural)		2,384

Insurance

Properties owned by the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana (March 31, 2024)
Item (Date of Acquisition) Purchase Price Est. Value Legal File – 4-drawer – Olive 10.00

(2) Letter Files-Tan - (Repainted 1988) 10.00

Seal of the Grand Commandery (no artwork) 100.00

50.00 30 Skull Caps for 5th Libation 100.00

Dell Inspiron 15 3000 Lap Top Computer (8 3-2020) 370.00 370.00

Seagate 2TB External Hard Drive 62.49 63.00

QuickBooks 2020 Desk-Top 200.00 200.00

HP Office Jet Pro 8710 (March 2019) + 4 Year Warranty 236.00 236.00

Office supplies and other items for sale- estimated 250.00

ITA Pins -130)

50-year pins (20)

DSA awards – Members (90)

DSA awards – Friends (45)

Newby-Avery Pins 400.00 400.00

Newby-Avery-Vaught Pins (Discontinued Use) 0.00 0.00

150 Year Books (15) 5.00 75.00

Total estimated value: \$1,937.00

All of the above items are located in the Grand Commandery Office at: 11128 Hickory Tree Rd, Fort Wayne, IN

INDIANA GRAND COMMANDERY NECROLOGY REPORT **2024 Annual Conclave**

To Right Eminent Grand Commander Randal Ellington, Officers of the Grand Commandery, Past Grand Commanders, and Sir Knights All:

It is with sadness in my heart that I report that, since our last Annual Conclave, the following Sir Knights have laid down their swords and shields and have passed to the Grand Asylum Above.

As our Lord has greeted these Sir Knights into his all-encompassing love, we should cherish the times we all shared together and remember their families in our personal prayers.

Let Us Pray: Heavenly Father, we thank you for allowing us to be a part of the lives of these Sir Knights that have joined you in the past year. We recognize the loss to their families and to everyone who knew them, but we live with the assurance that their souls reside with you for all eternity, and that we will see them again according to your plan. In Your Son's Holy Name, we pray. Amen.

Respectfully Submitted
 Sir Knight Barry Clouser - Grand Prelate
 Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana

Necrology Report April 1, 2023 – February 29, 2024

Commandery	Name	Birth	Passing
Raper #1	Ronald L. Williams	03/26/1951	06/21/2021
	Samuel R. Born, II	04/16/1945	10/23/2023
Baldwin #2	Kenneth L. Bowman	06/26/1929	01/03/2023
Fort Wayne #4	C. Robert Bier	08/18/1939	08/07/2023
	Wayne Ithier	05/03/1948	11/19/2023
	Robert A. McCullough	12/16/1948	03/31/2023
New Albany #5	Warren J. Nelsen	12/16/1927	02/02/2023
Richmond #8	Jeremy T. Woods	11/05/1972	11/27/2022
	Robert E. Napier	10/24/1930	04/10/2023
Greencastle #11	Robert S. Flint	08/21/1925	09/09/2023
	Ralph L. Persinger	07/27/1936	04/06/2023
LaPorte #12	Roy F. Denniston Jr.	01/05/1928	09/21/2022
	J. William Franks	12/25/1929	01/03/2024
Columbus #14	Dennis J. Anness	09/11/1946	06/04/2023
	Charles F. Wolter	05/24/1947	08/08/2023
	Stephen P. Kroman	05/25/1945	04/29/2023
	Marion K. Crum	06/22/1931	12/21/2023
	Ivan D. Lancaster	01/30/1942	12/26/2023
	Rickey W. Bush	04/18/1953	05/20/2022
La Valette #15	Marion L. Brandenberger	07/07/1939	05/10/2023
	Doyne W. Haley	06/07/1932	07/11/2023

	Larry A. Smith	02/07/1925	10/27/2023
Terre Haute #16	Jerry L. Burns	12/05/1942	04/11/2023
	Stephen M. Lewis	10/31/1953	06/27/2023
	Donald L. Weilhamer, Sr.	10/08/1936	09/14/2023
	Carl L. Dougherty	02/25/1953	12/13/2023
	Clifford A. Dunham Jr.	05/02/1947	12/21/2023
	Ronald J. Knopp	10/10/1949	01/05/2024
Apollo #19	NONE REPORTED		
Vincennes #20	Edward L. Sebring	09/25/1946	7/20/2023
	Samuel E. Barnett	08/29/1942	5/29/2023
Grant County #21	NONE REPORTED		
Crawfordsville #25	NONE REPORTED		
Valparaiso #28	John W. King	02/19/1928	08/26/2023
	Robeert F. Gerstenberg	03/22/1951	07/10/2023
	Allen H. Petersen	09/27/1922	06/17/2021
Frankfort #29	Larry D. Shepherd	11/27/1932	07/31/2023
	Thomas Ulrey	08/25/1956	05/04/2023
	William P. Overman	08/20/1925	01/11/2023
	Courtland C. Christner	12/23/1938	10/10/2022
	Richard R. Crum	01/27/1925	11/15/2022
	Edson W. Murry	02/26/1924	11/02/2023
	Gerald T. Sandmann	03/13/1938	08/22/2023
Elkhart #31	Jo C Paxton	08/09/1940	12/12/2022
Anderson #32	Joseph R. Walker	10/15/1936	10/17/2023
	Edwaard A. Harrison	06/26/1928	12/16/2023
Huntington #35	Samuel M. Kaiser	02/20/1930	08/27/2023
Kokomo #36	Robert S. Flint	08/21/1925	09/09/2023
	James E. Harris	03/24/1944	07/02/2023
	Edward L. Baker	12/28/1931	08/27/2023
	Thomas C. Patterson	04/08/1921	12/15/2023
	Sidney L. Kirtley	06/23/1946	01/21/2024
Greenfield #39	Philip B. Alexander	04/14/1940	10/26/2023
	Alvin T. Schoonover	09/20/1967	12/12/2023
	Lance L. Hollan	07/26/1963	01/20/2024

Bedford #42	NONE REPORTED		
Angola #45	Frank M. Sanders Benjamin R. Helmuth	09/10/1935 09/19/1946	04/06/2023 08/23/2023
Elbert H. Gary #57	David R. Zimmer Roger K. Watts George C. Quigley	02/19/1963 06/03/1948 06/02/1948	10/20/2023 10/14/2023 05/09/2023
Noblesville #61	Ricky J. Beaver Tony S. Peterson	03/01/1963 02/08/1969	04/05/2023 05/20/2023
Prather #62	Charles L. Crabtree	06/03/1949	05/17/2023
Bloomington #63	Paul G. Morin Robert R. Carter Richard E. Hickam Joseph M. Parrott, Sr.	04/04/1938 03/23/0933 11/17/1925 04/02/1935	09/01/2022 09/24/2023 09/06/2023 01/06/2023
Wright #64	Roland A. Potts	08/11/1952	05/25/2023
Wm. G. Bray	John M. Dickey Paul A. Pool	10/29/1928 12/04/1942	11/27/2016 10/16/2023
H. E. Lackey #67	NONE REPORTED		
Greene County #68	NONE REPORTED		
Lawrence Kaminski	Stephen P. Kroman Robert S. Flint Ivan D. Lancaster	05/25/1945 08/21/1925 01/30/1942	04/09/2023 09/09/2023 12/26/2023



**Sir Knight Stephen P. Kroman, KCT, GPE
May 25, 1945 – April 29, 2023**

Stephen Paul Kroman, 77, of Seymour, passed away Saturday April 29, 2023 at Indiana University Hospital.

Born May 25, 1945, in Florida to Nathan Kroman and Vivian Gerstein, who preceded him in death. He married Margaret Brock Kroman on April 14, 1991, in San Jose, California. He and his wife are residents of Seymour and are parents of four grown children and three grandsons.

Stephen grew up in New York City where he graduated from Long Island University with a degree

Marine Biology. He was drafted into the Army and served thirteen months in Vietnam, achieving the rank of Sergeant E5 and earning "Soldier of the Month" for all US forces in Vietnam. He also received the Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Clusters for actions during the Tet Offensive.

After discharge, he relocated to San Jose, CA, pursued a degree in Business and

started his own Financial Management Consulting firm, which he ran for over 35 years. After retirement he continued to share his expertise with charitable organizations and small businesses across California and Indiana.

Stephen relocated to Seymour in 2001 and began his fraternal journey. He was raised a Master Mason in April 2002, became a life endowed member of Jackson Lodge #146 in 2005, and served as Worshipful Master in 2008-2009. He was Eminent Commander of Seymour Commandry, High Priest for Seymour Chapter RAM #85, and following the merger of Seymour and Columbus York Rite was Illustrious Master of the Columbus Council #54. He also served as Secretary/Recorder of all three Bodies. He is a 32° member of the Indianapolis Valley and the George Rogers Clark Valley of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, and the Indianapolis Murat Shrine. He was also a member of Seymour Chapter #134, Order of the Eastern Star. Stephen was inducted into the St. Bernard de Clairvaux Council #256 of the Allied Masonic Degrees and served as Sovereign Master. He also was a member of the Royal Order of Scotland, the York Rite College of Corydon #207, and recipient of the Knights of York Cross of Honor.

Stephen served in many capacities in these fraternal orders including Grand Chaplain for Grand Chapter RAM of the State of Indiana, Grand Marshal for Grand Lodge, Area Representative for Area 34, Board member of the Indiana Masonic Home, and 10 years as Secretary-Treasurer and Board Member of the Masonic Heritage Foundation. Stephen was Grand Photographer for Indiana Grand Lodge since 2013. He has served on many committees for Grand Lodge including leading Treasurer's Workshops around the State. He also served in the Grand Commandry as Grand Marshal and aide, and Grand Prelate. He was awarded Grand Prelate Emeritus and Knight Commander of the Temple by the General Grand Encampment of Knights Templar.

He loved his family and being a grandpa, road trips, and traveling abroad. His hobbies included photography, cooking Asian cuisine, Science Fiction, and an appreciation for automobiles. In his earlier years he enjoyed scuba diving, snow skiing, camping and all things outdoors.

He has visited all 50 states, Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, England, Ireland, and Scotland.

He is survived by his wife Margaret, three sons Michael (Brielle) Kroman of Lafayette, CA, Joshua (Amanda) Kroman of Parkville, MO, and Daniel Kroman of Santa Clara, CA; step-daughter Linda (Dan) Gough of Paso Robles, CA; grandsons Garrett Gough (Paulina DeAlva), Ethan Kroman, and Jacob Kroman. He is also survived by a brother Jonathon (Caroline) Kroman, sister Ruth (Gregg) Gorrin, and several nieces and nephews.



**Sir Knight Tony S. Peterson, KCT, KTCH, GPE
February 8, 1969 – May 20, 2023**

Tony Scott Peterson, 54, of Fishers, Indiana passed away from cardiac arrest on Saturday, May 20, 2023, with his loving wife by his side. He was born to Kevin Peterson and Brenda (Peterson) Reed on February 8, 1969, in Greenfield, Indiana. Tony has been a lifelong resident of Hamilton County and the surrounding area. Tony's parents divorced while he was young and in his early childhood, he gained a stepmother, Caroline Peterson, stepbrother Tim Lawson, and stepsister Pat Schaefer.

Tony attended Hamilton Southeastern High School. He was an avid sportsman in his youth, playing football, competitive swimming, and running track. Perhaps the best gift he obtained from his education there was meeting the love of his life Monica (Dell) Peterson at the age of 15. Tony often joked about marrying an "older woman" as Monica is a whole six weeks older than him.

Tony served the community in various professional capacities over the years, his background was in construction, and he used his skill set freely with his friends and family. After volunteering for Hamilton County Emergency Management for six years, he was asked to join them as an employee and served as the Logistical Staging Area Manager until his passing. His favorite perk of working for the Hamilton County Emergency Management team was working alongside his wife as she serves as the Community Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator for the HCEM.

Tony was a proud Freemason of Indiana. He followed in his family's footsteps and was raised a Master Mason at Hamilton County Masonic Lodge No 533 in 2003. Five generations of Tony's family were Freemasons. Several of them joined the Scottish Rite, but Tony decided to follow in his great-grandfather's footsteps and join the York Rite in 2005. Tony had a very distinguished career in Masonry with his Lady Monica ever at his side. He was an amazing servant to the fraternity, always willing to use his skills and expertise when called upon. He has served as an aide to the Grand Commander or Deputy Grand Commander since 2010. He had the honor of becoming a Grand Prelate Emeritus in 2013. He received the honors of KTCH – Knight Templar Cross of Honor in 2017, and KCT – Knight Commander of the Temple in 2021. Tony served as Grand Sentinel for Grand Council in 2022 and Marshal for the Grand Chapter in 2018. Both Tony and Monica could be found running hospitality rooms, organizing bus trips, taking photos, providing sound equipment, and running banquets on an almost weekly basis to serve the fraternity he loved. He leaves a huge hole in the fabric of the Masonic Brotherhood and his presence will most certainly be missed. We take solace in the knowledge that he will enter that celestial lodge in heaven, to that house not built with hands, eternal in the heavens where he will hear the words, we all seek, "Well done, thy good and faithful servant".

Aside from his active participation in his Masonic endeavors, Tony had a passion for photography, rock music, and travel. He loved going to Minnesota to visit Monica's family and take pictures. Tony shared a love of projects with his father-in-law John Dell those two would often be found tinkering and talking. His mother-in-law Betty Dell would always bake him coconut cream pie. Monica joked that perhaps her parents liked him better since she prefers a blueberry pie, but Betty would always insist on baking for Tony. Tony enjoyed hearing about and celebrating the latest accomplishments of his stepson, Jon, whom he raised as his own. Tony shared his love of photography with his Brother-in-Law Steve Cooper, and Steve, along with his wife Tanya and daughter Hannah will certainly miss Tony's quiet strength and abiding family love. Tony has

enjoyed a special kinship with his “Buddy” Caleb, he has known him and helped care for him for the last 14 years. Tony and Caleb shared a bond, beyond a simple friendship. Tony could be a bit quirky and was a fan of visiting the “World’s Largest” whatever he could find and making memories with good friends, Sean Jones and Kim Creezy. Capturing moments on film or in person drove Tony into his love of travel and friendships. He was a tall man in stature, but he had a gentle warrior’s heart. If you saw him in a crowd, you might think he was quiet, but if you sat beside him, you heard all the best comments and jokes. He purposefully tried to make everyone’s life around him easier and more joyful. He loved his wife with every inch of his being and the partnership they shared is something to be envied.

Tony was preceded in death by his father, Kevin Peterson. He is survived by his loving wife Monica (Dell) Peterson; mother, Brenda Reed; and children, Jon Persinger and Chris Peterson.



Sir Knight Edward L. Sebring, GPE
September 25, 1946 – July 20, 2023

Edward L. Sebring, known affectionately as "Big Ed" for his big heart and voice, passed away peacefully on July 20, 2023. He was surrounded by the love of his life, companion and soulmate Cindy Rider, and their cherished family. He is survived by his stepchildren, Brian Rider (Lisa) and Christie Spalla (Dave), whom he loved dearly and treated as his own, as well as his grandchildren who brought immeasurable happiness to his life. His beloved cat Kallie held a special place in his heart, providing comfort and companionship during quiet moments. He is also survived by his former wife, Jo Ellen Keller (Earle) and was preceded in death by their son Charles “Chuck”

Stodghill Sebring, whom we are confident greeted him with “Hey old man, what took ya so long?” and a hilarious rendition of “The Spanish Inquisition.”

Born on September 25, 1946 in Vincennes, Indiana, to Paul F. and Louise Lorentz Sebring, Ed’s life was a testament to kindness, faith, dedication, and service to his community. He was proud to have attended The Ohio State University, earning a bachelor’s degree in Ancient History as well as an MBA, and nurturing a lifelong love for the Buckeyes. Ed found fulfillment and purpose in serving as a lay pastor for many Presbyterian congregations over the years. His favorite message was “God’s in charge; we ain’t!”

Ed's family extended beyond his immediate kin, as he was an esteemed member of Freemasonry for 55 years, and a DeMolay for 60 years. He fully embraced the principles of brotherhood, charity, and integrity, serving in many leadership roles in Masonry, church, and the Boy Scouts. If you needed something done, Ed was your man.

With pen in hand and a heart full of stories, Ed made his mark as an award winning writer for the Vincennes Sun-Commercial newspaper. His words captured the essence of local events and offered uplifting stories and insights that inspired the community.

A memorial service to celebrate Ed’s life will be held at the Vincennes #1 Masonic Lodge on Saturday, Sept. 2, at 11:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers or other gifts, the family kindly requests donations to be made in his honor to the Vincennes #1 Lodge F&AM, 501 Broadway, Vincennes, IN 47591; the Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice of the Wabash Valley, 400 8th Ave., Terre Haute, IN 47804; or the Masonic or community service organization of your choice.

Farewell, Big Ed. You will forever be remembered for your warmth, wisdom, and kind spirit. May you rest

in eternal peace, knowing that your presence and loving legacy will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by all whose lives you touched. Bravo!



Sir Knight Robert S. Flint, KCT, KTCH, GPE
August 21, 1925 – September 9, 2023

Robert S. Flint, 98, died peacefully at St. Vincent Kokomo Hospital on Saturday, September 9, 2023. He was born in Detroit, MI on August 21, 1925 to Cecil and Georgia Flint. His family moved back to Greencastle, IN when he was 3 years old, and he was raised there. He served in the Navy in the Pacific theatre during WWII. After returning home, he met and eventually married the love of his life, Helen Tzouanakis, and remained married for 44 years until her death.

Bob was a licensed watch maker and co-owned a jewelry store in Greencastle with his father-in-law. After a few years, he moved his family to Kokomo to work at Delco Radio as a technician in the crystal growing lab and later as a journeyman tool and die maker until his retirement from Delco Electronics in 1991. From 1946 to 2000, he also worked at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway on the safety patrol for the activities associated with the Indy 500 each May.

Bob joined the Masons at 21 years of age. He became more active in his later years, holding many official positions and receiving multiple honors. In addition, Bob was a member of the Board of Directors and served as the Treasurer for the Horologic Association of Indiana. Bob also greatly enjoyed driving his minivan around the country to visit friends and family, often traveling up to 6000 miles in a single trip.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, James; his wife, Helen; his youngest son, Regan; and his oldest granddaughter, Nicole. He is survived by his brother, William (Mary); two sons, Robert, II (Mitzi) and Rodney (Dawn); 5 grandchildren, Molly, Fabia, Ethan, Phoenix, and Issabella; and 8 great-grandchildren, Brayden, Rori, Zayne, Harleigh, Niko, Grayson, Lyra, and Reign.



Sir Knight Thomas C. Patterson, KCT, KTCH, GPE
April 18, 1921 – December 15, 2023

Thomas “Tom” Carlton Patterson, 102, of Kokomo, passed away on Friday, December 15, 2023, at Community Howard Regional Health. He was born on April 8, 1921, in Miami County, IN, the son of James O. and Hazel M. (McCain) Patterson. On August 2, 1944, he married Margaret E. Nowak, and she preceded him in death on September 9, 1988.

Tom graduated from Union Township High School in 1939. He proudly served in the United States Navy. He worked as an Engineer at Delco Electronics, retiring after 38 years of service. In retirement Tom enjoyed painting and entered the Indiana State Fair art contest several times, winning multiple awards. He traveled extensively and visited all 50 states and some of the provinces of Canada. He was very proud of his grandchildren and great grandchild, and treasured the time he spent with them. Tom was a 50-year member of the Indiana Grand Masonic Lodge and the Scottish Rite. He was Past Master of Howard Masonic Lodge F&AM 93, Past Commander of Kokomo Commandry 36, and Past Patron of Kokomo Chapter 89 Order of Eastern Star. He was also a member of Main Street United Methodist Church.

Tom is survived by his children, Connie Patterson, Dr. David (Dr. Norma) Patterson, and Phyllis (Peter) Sills; grandchildren, Sean Patterson, Amelia Patterson, Dr. Elizabeth (Matthew Perreault) Sills, and Colin Patterson; and his great-grandson, Remy Perreault.

Tom was preceded in death by his parents, wife, and sister, Edna McCrumb.



**Sir Knight Ronald L. Ellis, KCT, PGC
September 23, 1939 – February 22, 2024**

Ronald Lee Ellis, 84, of Columbus, passed away Thursday February 22, 2024. He was born September 23, 1939 in Columbus to B. Gail and Bessie (Adams) Ellis. They preceded him in death.

Mr. Ellis earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Purdue University. He retired from both Arvin Industries and NTN Driveshaft. He was also a member of the First United Methodist Church of Columbus.

Ron was an active member of the Masonic Lodge and Knights Templar. In 2009, he was Past Master of the Camon Lodge #343, Hope, IN. He also served as their current chaplain. He was Past Grand Eminent Commander of the Grand Commandery of the Knight Templar of Indiana in 2004.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife of 57 years, Beverly K. Ellis, in 2021.

Survivors include his loving daughter, Gail (Al) Scroggins of Mooresville, NC; and companion, Wilma Friend of Greensburg.

Resolution to Grand Commandery Law

A Resolution was received to add Section 917 to the Laws of the Grand Commandery and read as follows.

Proposed by: SK William Short, SK Randy Darling, SK David Miller, II, SK Doug Patmore

A Resolution to amend the Laws of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Indiana by adding a Section 917.

WHEREAS: Competitive Drills have long been a tradition and integral facet of Indiana Templary.

WHEREAS: participating in drills is crucial for the exemplification of the Commandery Orders.

WHEREAS: it is readily apparent that those trained in drills display a sense of unity, discipline, and military bearing which serves as an example for all Hoosier Templars.

WHEREAS: Drill Team members are dedicated to many hours of practice, sacrificing their time, energy, and fortune in preparing for and attending drill competitions.

WHEREAS: experienced drill members are enabled to instruct in sword skills and tactics that serve to benefit all Indiana Commanderies.

WHEREAS: there is no current form of uniform accoutrements specific to Drill Team members as drill bars are awarded to all who participate in pass in reviews.

WHEREAS: a proper acknowledgment is necessary to recognize and reward drill members for their perseverance, fidelity, and loyalty to the advancement of Templarism.

WHEREAS: Competitive Drills have declined over the past several years, and a highly visible form of recognition would serve to incentivize Sir Knights to augment existing or forming new Drill Teams, as they aspire to attain the right to wear the coveted Drill Cord.

WHEREAS: a means of displaying and rewarding the pride in Templar Drills that these Sir Knights possess, is well earned, and long overdue.

RESOLVED: that a shoulder cord in the fashion of the membership cord, consisting of gold and white, the first color being the outside color, be approved for wearing on the right shoulder of Sir Knights who are active Drill Team members, thereby recognizing those Sir Knights for promoting, expanding, and perpetuating the legendary Indiana Drills tradition.

RESOLVED: that a shoulder cord of white and gold, reversing the active membership colors, be approved for wearing on the right shoulder for those Sir Knights who have actively participated in drills for a period of not less than 10 years, that may be worn thereafter, thereby honoring their long commitment and sacrifices in preserving the storied history of Indiana Drills.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that owing to the innate knowledge of the respective Drill Captains, it shall be the sole discretion of said Captains to determine eligibility of/and awarding of Drill Cord.

After some debate the Motion was Seconded and Passed

BATTALION REPORTS

Battalion #1 Final Report 2023-24

TO: The Right Eminent Grand Commander, Officers of the Grand Commandery, Past Grand Commanders, Officers and all Sir Knights.

Meetings:

I have met with all my constituent commandries multiple times within this battalion, and we discussed issues concerning each commandery. I have an open line of communication with all my commanders and recorders within this battalion.

Status of Battalion #1 Commanderies:

Laporte #12

This commandery is in great shape. I have always been impressed with. They Knighted 6 new Sir Knights this year. The leadership of the Grand Officers combined with the Commandery Officers creates a deep pool of knowledge. New Sir Knights have worked hard to step into rolls, which continues to strengthen the Commandery.

Valparaiso #28

This commandery is also in great shape. Their members are dedicated and knowledgeable. They have practice or orders every Monday, and it shows in their work. They too have 7

new Sir Knights. They have exhibited some of the best-in-class traits that other commanderies could use to better themselves.

Elkhart #31

This commandery is becoming a strong commandery through their goals of conferring all the orders themselves. The line of their leadership in this commandery is strong. They work hard and will continue to grow. This year they have 7 new Sir Knights. I always look forward to visiting them.

E.H. Gary #57

E.H Gary is in the process of rebuilding. They had a vote to merge with other York Rites. They chose not to merge. They know it will be a heavy burden, however they say they are up to the task. The Battalion will continue to support E. H. Gary in any means they ask.

Summary/Remarks:

Battalion #1 is in great shape, and we are looking forward to the new year and bringing on new Sir Knights. With the start of the new calendar year they are starting their rotations beginning with Chapter.

Fraternally Yours,
Scott A. Sacek
Grand Standard Bearer
Battalion #1 Commander

Battalion II Report 2023-2024

Greetings Right Eminent Grand Commander Randal P. Ellington, Past Grand Commanders, Grand Commandery Officers, Sir Knights and all. The Status of Battalion II continues to grow and sprout new Sir Knights that are eager to get involved. I'm proud of the Eminent Commanders in this Battalion as they give their all to make sure the officers and Sir Knights in their respective Commanderies feel a part of what is going on in the asylum. They allow everyone to learn at their own pace but at the same time participate in the Orders. I believe this will only make stronger Sir Knights in the future.

Fort Wayne Commandery #4 is led by a great leader that communicates through email by keeping everyone updated on what is going on in his commandery as well as the community. Fort Wayne still has a plan to resurrect a drill team for competition. I fully expect this to come to fruition very soon. I believe Fort Wayne is in good hands. The Sir Knights got together with Huntington for inspection. They performed The Order of the Temple with a keen sense of passion that spilled on to the sidelines. There were many compliments that were given at the end of the day. These guys are doing very well.

Apollo Commandery #19 is continuing to grow our Fraternity in the Auburn area as usual. They are doing this by keeping the Sir Knights in plain view by often doing the Flag Lecture at different events that show to the world we love Christ and our country. I believe Apollo is still one of the strongest Commandries in the state and the Sir Knights should be proud. They have several new members in the que waiting for their degrees and orders in the York Rite. I'm looking forward to watching the new members' faces as they get great floor work from this Commandery. They along with Angola performed The Order of the

Temple for their inspection and performed this flawlessly. The Candidate was thoroughly impressed. He was very happy and looks forward to participating in their Commandery.

Huntington Commandery #35 continues to gain tracking on moving this Commandry in a forward motion. This group of men have a dedication unparalleled. They participated in The Order of the Temple for inspection with Fort Wayne Commandery and did a great job. However, for next year I said we need more members present for the inspection. We need Huntington to pull more of the load during the inspection. Next year they will have a candidate and not an exemplar. Good job Sir Knights.

Angola Commandery #45 is as strong as ever. These Sir Knights continue to surprise me with their dedication to the Craft. They have committed to opening on every degree and Order in York Rite for every meeting to make sure they are able to perform this duty. That takes a commitment like no other. I am extremely proud of these guys. They also continue to spread the York Rite knowledge around the area as they have performed several flag presentations in Lodges and various other places. This group of guys are extremely proud of what they do and are second to none. So, with that said there is no surprise that this group of Sir Knights did an excellent job during the inspection while performing The Order of the Temple.

The state of Battalion II is strong and will continue to grow to an even bigger and better group of Sir Knights. There are some areas that need improvement, but we will continue to work together to strengthen our Battalion.

Fraternally,

Dominic J. Hamblin, GCG

Battalion II Commander

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Indiana

Battalion # III 2023 -2024 Year In Review

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander Phil Whisner, and Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of Indiana. I would like to thank each of you for the confidence in me to be amongst the ranks of the Grand Commandery. Battalion III consist of the following Commanderies: Grant County # 21, Anderson # 32, Kokomo # 36 and Noblesville # 61.

My year as Battalion III Commander has been an honor and a pleasure to oversee. We have amazing Sir Knights that are dedicated wholeheartedly, and give it their all. Like other Commandries, there are low numbers in membership. They continue to recruit, maintain and improve their work.

To my DBC's Barry Clouser, Andrew Bowman and Xen Prickett Jr., thank you for the help and assistance this year. I cannot have asked for a better crew to be with on this journey.

Eminent Commanders, thank you for your time, dedication and patience as we worked though the year. I am very honored to be with you this year. Keep the momentum that has been put into motion. I look forward to a new year, and cannot wait to see what it has in store for us all. Keep the Faith!!!

Grant County Commandery # 21, a huge shout out to you all. Your year has been amazing. By doing your own degree work, your membership numbers keep rising. Congratulations on your outstanding year. Keep up the hard work and dedication.

Anderson Commandery # 32 is continuing its efforts on membership growth and retention.

Their officer line is a treasure trove of knowledge. I look forward to your continued efforts, and growth. I anticipate great things from Anderson Commandery, and cannot wait to see where you go next.

Kokomo Commandery #36 is trying to rebuild its membership, and has a bit of a struggle to get members to attend the meetings. Kokomo Commandery has great leadership, and I hope the new and upcoming Sir Knights strive to absorb this knowledge they have there.

Noblesville Commandery # 61, Your officer line is strong, and I look forward to seeing them grow. They are doing a great job bringing in new members and mentoring them on their journey. Great work Sir Knights, it has been a great year!!

Yours in Templary,

Dathan L. Reed
Grand Standard Bearer
Battalion III Commander

Battalion Number IV Annual Report 2023/2024

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, Grand Commandery Officers and Sir Knights all:

Battalion Number IV consist of; Greencastle No. 11, Terre Haute No. 16, Crawfordsville No. 25 and Frankfort No. 29.

Greencastle No. 11 is currently struggling. They have 4 candidates. Their current obstacle is they have a handicap candidate and no handicap access to the Lodge Room. They are currently working with other area York Rites to complete their degrees and orders. It will be a long road before they reach the Order of the Temple. They will still need a lot of help and support along the way.

Terre Haute No. 16 Knighted 2 for 2023. They currently have 5 candidates. Terre Haute is strong and can confer the degrees and orders with no help. They have done a great job at including their new members and giving them a part.

Crawfordsville No. 25 Knighted 1 for 2023. Crawfordsville has a solid foundation and is close to being able to confer the order on their own. Crawfordsville is continuing to grow

stronger and has the goal to confer all degrees and orders in house. They currently have 5 candidates with the potential of starting a second class this summer.

Frankfort No. 29 had to send their candidates to Prather this year to be knighted, of which there were two. They have 1 who was unable to attend and they have 4 candidates for 2024. They are still struggling with attendance and are trying new things to attract new and older members to return. They are starting to struggle with the conferral of degrees and orders upon their candidates. They will be working with other area York Rites to complete the degrees and orders upon their candidates.

Courteously,
Joseph L. Sparks
Grand Generalissimo
Battalion IV Commander

Battalion #5 Annual Report 2023-2024

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Past Right Eminent Grand Commanders, Officers of the Grand Commandery of Indiana, Sir Knights all:

Battalion Five has made of Greenfield Commandery #39, Prather Commandery #62 and William G. Bray Commandery #65

Greenfield Commandery #39

This Commandery has Knighted 10+ knights this year and proud to have been there for their Order of Malta and Order of Temple. All Inspections were completed in the timely manner as required by the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Indiana. They were inspected on the Order of Malta. I have visited this Commandery several times. They are an enthusiastic group of men, that meet regularly for meeting and special events like their Pizza Boothe at their County Fair. They are very ready to bring new members into the organization and Support the Grand Commandery of Indiana.

Calvin Prather Commandery #62

This Commandery has Knighted 10+ Knights this year and proud to have been there for the Order of Red Cross, Order of Malta and Order of Temple. All inspections were completed in a timely manner as required by the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Indiana. They were Inspected on the Order of Malta. I have visited this Commandery several times, they are an enthusiastic group of men. They host twice a year an all-day Classes to ensure that not only to bring Knights to their Commandery as well as any York Rite that need to get individuals through their Chapter, Council degrees and Knights. This Commandery schedules many events for their members throughout the year to make their membership very strong. This is a strong commandry.

William G. Bray Commandery #65

This Commandery has Knighted 8 new Knights this year and proud to have been there for the Order of Malta and the Order of Temple. All inspections were completed in a timely manner as required by the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Indiana. This

Commandery was inspected on the Order of Malta, they practiced several times to make sure they could do the best that they could. They needed some help but were able to perform as required. This group worked hard to make sure they were able to get these Companions through their Orders. I feel this Commandery is working hard to ensure the success of there dedication to the Grand Commandery of Knight Templar of Indiana.

I have been meeting with my Battalion Commanderies when possible since January 2024. I have received all Inspection and Reception dates when asked.

I would like to give special thanks to SK Nathen Ratterman as my DBC #5 and SK Randy Darling VEDGC and SK Josph Sparks GG for assisting me this year when need arises.

Fraternally and sincerely,
Jeffery W. Prairie GS
Battalion V Commander

BATTALION VI ANNUAL REPORT April 2024

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, Grand Commandery Officers, and Sir Knights All:

Battalion VI is comprised of Raper Commandery #1, Baldwin Commander #2 and Richmond Commandery #8. The Commanderies in Battalion VI are doing well. Below is a summary of each:

Raper Commandery #1: Raper Commandery is in good shape, this year they performed the Twelve Man Reception with assistance from members of its Drill Team. They were inspected on the Order of the Temple, knighted one new Sir Knight, and performed well. Before each meeting the members enjoy a meal together and have visited throughout the year with Sir Knights who are unable to travel due to illness. During the past twelve months Raper Commandery had members:

- Go on the Easter Sunrise Trip,
- Participate in drill team competition,
- Present the flag to a local school and Blue Lodge,
- Attend the Grand Conclave,
- Attend the Newby-Avery-Vaught Banquet/Winter Meeting, and
- Attend the Winter Battalion Meeting/Indiana Knight Templar Academy.

The Commandery has also contributed to:

- Newby-Avery-Vaught,
- The Knight Templar Eye Foundation,
- The Holy Land Pilgrimage, and
- The Knight Templar Crusader.

The records of Raper Commandery were reviewed during the annual inspection and found to be in good condition.

Baldwin Commandery #2: Baldwin Commandery is in good shape; this year they knighted three new Sir Knights. Baldwin hosted their Commander's Reception and were inspected on the Order of Malta; they performed well at both. Baldwin Commandery has been very active this year including the following:

- Had an open installation of officers,
- Marched in a local parade,
- Assisted with several events involving our youth groups,
- Assisted in forming the lines at Grand Lodge Annual Communication,
- Visited with local lodges,
- Participated in drill team competition,
- Attend the Grand Conclave,
- Had members go on the Easter Sunrise Trip,
- Held a Christmas Observance,
- Attend the Newby, Avery Vaught Banquet/Winter Meeting,
- Attend the Winter Battalion Meeting/Indiana Knight Templar Academy and
- Participated in one patriotic event.

Baldwin Commandery has contributed to:

- Newby-Avery-Vaught,
- Knight Templar Eye Foundation, Holy Land Pilgrimage,
- Knight Templar Crusader,
- Sponsored a youth group.
- Aid a Sir Knight.

Baldwin Commandery also continues with their pizza booth at the county fair raising funds for their Commandery. The records of Baldwin Commandery were reviewed during the annual inspection and found to be in good condition.

Richmond Commandery #8: Richmond Commandery is in good shape. Richmond Commandery performed well in their Commander's Reception and Inspection on Order of the Temple, knighting one new Sir Knight. They have been active in the following events:

- Open installation of officers,
- Participate in a Memorial Service
- Attend Grand Conclave,
- Attend the Easter Sunrise Trip,
- Attend the Winter Battalion Meeting,
- Provide an Honor Guard for a deceased Sir Knight.

Richmond Commandery has contributed financially to:

- Newby-Avery-Vaught, and
- The Knight Templar Crusader.

Richmond Commandery provides regular communication to its members by monthly emails and sends cards to Sir Knights who are sick. The records of Richmond Commandery were reviewed during the annual inspection and found to be in good condition.

I am certain that Battalion VI is in good shape and will continue to get stronger with the

efforts of the Sir Knights.

Fraternally,
Mark A. Elder
Grand Warder/Battalion VI Commander

Battalion #7 2023 - 2024

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, Grand Commandery Officers, and Sir Knights:

New Albany # 5

New Albany Commandery has conferred all of the Orders this year with some help from other commanderies. They marched in New Albany's Memorial Day parade. They have done 3 flag presentations for local lodges. They held a Templar board with a guest speaker from Indiana Salute to the Veterans. They welcomed 5 new Sir Knights this year. Several members participated in conferring orders at Bedford. They hosted a joint inspection with Columbus. Their attendance at conclaves has improved along with their activities.

Columbus # 14

Columbus conferred the Order of the Red Cross in April. This is the first Order they have done in over 5 years. They held their inspection with New Albany and had several Sir Knights in attendance and participate. They still need to continue to work on tactics and increase their activities score but have made progress. Attendance remains high at their York Rite meetings.

Bedford # 42

Bedford has conferred all of the Orders multiple times with some help from the other Commanderies in the battalion as well as involving their own new members. They held an educational meeting at the end of May and had a few members attend and are planning on doing some more this coming year. They did four flag presentations at local lodges. Bedford Knighted seven new members this year and have 5 companions currently going through the Chapter degrees. Their average attendance is still low, but they are working on improving attendance and involving new members more.

Bloomington #63

Bloomington's attendance has started to increase at their stated conclaves. They held a joint inspection with Bedford and had several members participate. Some participated for the first time. They have helped Bedford throughout the year with conferring orders. Their activities have gone up this year and are still working on several things to implement.

Battalion 7 held their battalion meeting with Battalion 8 on February 17th at Bedford. All Commandery's from Battalion 7 were represented.

In general, overall Battalion attendance seems to be leveling off, but has improved since last year. Several of the commanderies have candidates going through chapter and council degrees. The battalion as a whole needs to continue to look at ways to increase membership and participation.

Courteously,
Jon McCracken, GSW
Battalion VII Commander

Grand Commandery of Knights Templars of Indiana Battalion #8 Annual Report and Summary 2023-2024

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Grand Commandery Officers, and Sir Knights
All:

Here is the following Annual Report and Summary for Battalion #8 for 2023-2024:

As the Battalion Commander for Battalion #8, the 4 Commanderies overall have performed well this year. These Commanderies have continued to improve on attendance, Order Conferral, and overall participation.

LaValette Commandery #15:

LaValette Commandery has been quite busy. We have brought in 7 new members who have completed all Degrees and Orders. The Order of the Temple was conferred on these 7 Knights at our annual Inspection on October 17, 2023. LaValette had their annual Christmas Program and Installation of Commandery Officers on Thursday, December 21, 2023. This event was open to the public with a reception afterwards.

Vincennes Commandery #20:

Vincennes Commandery has improved in New Membership and attendance. Vincennes hosted their Reception and Inspection with Green Co. Commandery #68.

On Wednesday, February 7, 2024, Vincennes conferred the Red Cross and Malta Orders on 7 new members.

Members from Vincennes are excellent in attending Battalion #8 meetings and activities. They are always ready to assist when needed.

Wright Commandery #64:

Wright Commandery continues to grow and perform well. They performed both their Reception and Inspection with LaValette Commandery #15. Wright continues to assist and support the Commanderies of Battalion #8.

Greene Co. Commandery #68:

Green Co. Commandery has improved this year in new membership, attendance, and participation in activities throughout the Battalion. They had their Reception and Inspection with Vincennes #20.

On Wednesday, February 7, 2024, Green Co. participated in the Red Cross and Malta Orders with Vincennes #20. Green Co. had the Red Cross and Malta Orders conferred on 2 new members.

Greene Co. Commandery continues to support the commanderies in the Battalion.

DBC. Rob Hendrix and DBC Shelby Olvey have really done an outstanding job in assisting in all the activities for Battalion #8 this year. They both bring a world of knowledge and are outstanding Leaders.

In Summary, all the Commanderies in Battalion #8 have improved, supported each other, and showed excellent teamwork and Leadership.

Fraternally Submitted.

Douglas E. Patmore, PC.

Grand Sword Bearer

Battalion #8 Commander

AWARDS

Grand Commandery Awards

Activities Awards

- **Battalion #1**
 - Blue Ribbon – La Porte #12 w/ 9285 points
 - Red Ribbon – Valparaiso #28 w/ 7465 points
- **Battalion #2**
 - Blue Ribbon – Angola #45 w/ 7942 points
 - Red Ribbon – Fort Wayne #4 w/ 5185 points
- **Battalion #3**
 - Blue Ribbon – Grant County #21 w/ 7190 points
 - Red Ribbon – Kokomo #31 w/ 4505 points
- **Battalion #4**
 - Blue Ribbon – Crawfordsville #25 w/ 8530 points
 - Red Ribbon – Terre Haute #16 w/ 4761 points
- **Battalion #5**
 - Blue Ribbons – Prather #62 w/ 7645 points
 - Red Ribbon – Greenfield #39 w/ 7280 points
- **Battalion #6**
 - Blue Ribbon – Baldwin #2 w/ 10305 points
 - Red Ribbon – Raper #1 w/ 8175 points
- **Battalion #7**
 - Blue Ribbon – Bedford #42 w/ 5990 points
 - Red Ribbon – Bloomington #63 w/ 5540 points
- **Battalion #8**
 - Blue Ribbon – LaValette #15 w/ 8665 points
 - Red Ribbon – Wright #64 w/ 4020 points

Guidons based on Ritual Points

- **Battalion #1**
 - Valparaiso #28 w/ 1440 points
- **Battalion #2**
 - Fort Wayne #4 w/ 793 points
- **Battalion #3**
 - Grant County #21 w/ 856 points
- **Battalion #4**
 - Crawfordsville #25 w/ 820 points
- **Battalion #5**
 - Prather #62 w/ 615 points
- **Battalion #6**
 - Richmond #8 w/ 866 points

- **Battalion #7**
- Bedford #42 w/ 776 points
- **Battalion #8**
- LaValette #15 w/ 439 points
- Wright #64 w/ 439 points

Star Recorder of the Year

- Ronald Ross – Elkhart #31

J. Rufus Hinshaw Highest % Increase of Membership

- Grant County #21

Grand Commanders Award Highest \$ of Knightings

- Elkhart #31

Distinguish Service Award

- 4 – Sir Knights
- 2 – Ladies

Eminent Commander Certificates of Merit

- Vance Brewer – Baldwin #2
- Dan Patterson – Fort Wayne #4
- Mike Lowe – Terre Haute #16
- Rodney McGillvery – Apollo #19
- Steve Dooley – Grant County #21
- Kenny Cluster – Crawfordsville #25
- Andrew Bowman – Kokomo #36
- Mark Elder – Noblesville #61

R. Frank Williams Award

- Baldwin Commandery #2

Ritual Competition

- Ode to the Skull – John Freeland
- Sword – Chris Steel
- Warder – Shames Driver
- Prelate’s Address – Matthew Worland
- Junior Warders Address – John Freeland

Drill Team Exhibitions

- Raper #1 – Class “C”
- Baldwin #2 – Class “D”
- Greenfield #39 – Class “D”

Grand Encampment Awards

Knight Commander of the Temple

- Sir Knight Randel Ellington
- Sir Knight Gary Brinley

Companion of the Temple

Dee Ellington – Lady of Randal Ellington, REGC

**Comments from East Central Department Commander
Sir Knight Martin Trent**

Your support of the youth and your support of our philanthropies, you're doing great things in this state.

This will be the last time that you see me stand before you as your department commander. I appreciate what Indiana has done throughout the three years that I've had the privilege of holding this office. Number one of which has been Indiana's integral part of taking care of registration for East Central department you Sir Knights have no idea how much it means to a department commander to not have to worry about registration when there is somebody like the longtime chairman Sir Knight Ed Fodera and his team from Indiana taking care of things, so thank you for that.

Please be aware and please keep in mind that everyone in this room, you, every one of you is integral to Templary in Indiana and Templary in the United States of America and the Grand Encampment. What you do is important in keeping Templary going. Growing temporary and making it better so you have my appreciation for that and I urge you to keep doing everything you can and with unity of purpose and making temporary the most outstanding organization it can be to show the Christian values that we hold in this organization to future generations thank you very much i appreciate the recognition and the hospitality you've shown to me and my Lady Benita and i look forward to more visits in the future thank

**Comments from
Sir Knight Duane L. Vaught
Most Eminent Past Grand Master
Of the Grand Encampment**

Thank you, please be seated be comfortable. I was very brief last night because we were a little pressed for time so I will be a little longer today. They're not too much after all I'm a CPA. I charge by the hour my clients expect me to be brief and get to the point, to not waste a lot of time.

But I am happy to be back with you and I want to tell you that this is a great organization that we are very fortunate to be and there's a lot of great Masonic organizations. And they're not identical and I don't mean that some of us wear these outlandish uniforms and other bright purple coats and other little funny hats, well we have funny hats too. The reason why we have so many Masonic organizations is so that we have the opportunity to specialize in these into certain kinds of things and an individual member might find several different things enjoyable.

Especially over the course of the lifetime that as a young parent you might love the youth organizations where your kids are. And that you might be involved in lodge, you might be involved in Shrine where you get to party, you might be involved in organizations that are all about research, making also is a little different.

Yes, we dress a little more exotically, but we get all wrapped up in the business we want to accomplish. That we want to accomplish this we want to have drill competition and ritual competition, and we want to send ministers the Holy Land and we want to operate an eye

foundation, and I can tell you some pretty spectacular stories if you want to hear them about the eye foundation.

That's not better or worse than the other Masonic organizations, it's just the specialties that we choose to adopt and I'm happy to say that like many Masonic organizations we do a darn good job on the specialties that we choose. To adopt we are fortunate to be able to express ourselves and participate in these kinds of things and whether again whether it's the drill or ritual or being involved in one of our charities or the business of running the grand commandery, I mean you heard the financial report, these are not small numbers that we deal with. But what we do we take seriously and we care about it and we get a real sense of accomplishment for having done that and I guess in a way I can relate to that especially because that's what I do with my clients I meet with a client and I don't expect them to gush all over me about how much they appreciate me OK occasionally it'd be nice if they would but I'm not looking for that I'm looking for a sense of fulfillment that I know I did a good job for them and I guess the fact that they don't fire me means they probably think the same but we are lucky to be here we're lucky to be in each other's company to do the business we're lucky to have the social time we are just darn fortunate to be in this fraternity that's what i feel and i hope you're on the same page thank you

**Comments from Inspecting Officer
Sir Knight David W. Studley Grand Captain
&
Personal Representative of Sir Knight David Kussman
Most Eminent Grandmaster of the Grand Encampment**

Thank you be seated please I have lengthy remarks to present today in view of the time and the hour I think that I'll probably give them to my mirror tonight in my room so any of you who want to come along may join me. Distinguish East it is an honor to be here and I do bring warmest fraternal greetings from David J Cussman our Most Eminent Grandmaster. I am honored to be here in Illinois I'm glad he asked me to come and represent you Illinois, Indiana who did that recently somebody I think our president said the same thing it's not even here I know OK.

There are there are people sitting on this stage tonight who I admire greatly Dwayne Vaught was one of the first people to greet me when I was elected a trustee of the Eye Foundation, and the charitable activities of our organization are really important I commend all of you your generosity in supporting the eye foundation and the work that it does. I also want to acknowledge the generosity that all of you have shown to your youth organizations and to the Holy Land pilgrimage, which of course we weren't able to send anyone to this past year because of the difficulties in the Middle East. But I do appreciate you guys doing so much for all of the charitable entities that you support.

We also mentioned because I've looked at it for the last three hours the wonderful Grand Commandery banner of Indiana that is in the back of the room there it's really lovely I honest to goodness. I went to look at it just as I returned from the men's room and I don't know if it's 170 years old or not but it is a beautiful banner it's much nicer than the one we have in California and we have a nice banner in California but you should be rightfully proud of that.

I also want to mention quickly your remarks Grand Commander Randy, I thought they were heartfelt. I know they were delivered with a lot of emotion, it's clear that you really do love your fellow Sir Knights in this jurisdiction. I only want to mention a couple of things about them. I think if your parents had been here to hear them, I'm sorry they weren't but had they been here to hear them they might have said that that you're commending them for bringing you into this life was really actually more fun than it was difficult the raising you was probably the more difficult task.

I also want to mention to you one last final point we we stress membership all the time we have collected data at the Grand Encampment from all of the recorders about all of the members of this jurisdiction and I think we failed you in not producing for you active strategies that reflect the concerns that you have about membership. See I'm pleased to report that Grandmaster Cushman wants to address that this year.

I've had conversations with your Grandmaster last night Gary and with your Grand Commander about ritual and I think one of the things that we hope to do to make commandery more welcoming to our new Sir Knights is to stress the need to be able to do ritual in our own commanders. Not to have festivals to be able to Knight locally our new Sir Knights that and welcoming them into our commandery with ritual that is performed by their fellows. For Knights in the commandery now I know it's not possible everywhere, but it should be a goal of all of us to do more to personalization of our rituals and tactics.

David is going to encourage that next year. David Cushman all of us who are privileged to serve him are going to encourage you to do that I hope you'll take at the heart and I hope you'll take the time to develop good ritual skills so that we can present them to our Sir Knights that said I thank you for the opportunity to serve you this year I it is indeed a pleasure to be here in Indiana and thank you for the opportunity to attend your grand sessions Sir Knights

**Comments from Most Worshipful Master
Of the Free & Accepted Freemason of Indiana
Sir Knight Gary Brinley**

It has been my pleasure to be here today. I have enjoyed watching the debate the discussions have being able to be a part of of this event today.

I want to talk to you just a little bit about membership, but I'm going to be real brief because I think I'm between you and lunch. Grand Lodge of Indiana membership, that was my number one priority for 2023. We raised 817 master Masons that's 100 above 2022 but still only add a 2% raising rate. Based on our beginning balance our membership numbers have dropped down to 39,400 at the end of 12/31/23 and as of about a week ago we were below 39,000 at 38,980. We've been losing membership at about 3 1/2 percent rate. I ran the numbers that Ed reported earlier and the Grand Commandery only dropped by 2.4% so a little better results then at the Grand Lodge level so to be commended for that.

The second one was proficiency trying to move candidates through the degrees and not force them to become ritualist as they're coming through the degrees.

I was looking up a a member the other day I was pulled up his lodge and one of the things that was really interesting was in the Grand Lodge database, that lodge had 29 aged EA. So, 29 men that had enough interest to petition the lodge but yet somehow, they had not gone beyond that first step, and I have no idea the reason why.

It was just something I found really interesting that we had 29 and that just that one lodge I think of the change that could be made if there's 29 for others EA's had become master Masons.

Randy just want to thank you and the Grand Commandery for the hospitality shown to Marilyn and I this weekend. I appreciate everything that everyone here does for Templary and Indiana I'm here to support you both as Grandmaster, Passed Grandmaster as well as trying to keep the commandery in Bloomington moving forward.

So with that I look forward to installation here in about 3 hours and I'm going to step aside and allow us to get to lunch thank you.

Unfinished Business Annual Report 2024

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Officers of the Grand Commandery of Indiana,
Sir Knights all:

There is no unfinished business.

Fraternally & sincerely,
Randy J. Darling, VEDGC/Chair

GENERAL ORDERS



GRAND COMMANDERY

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

General Order No. 1 Ellington
April 26, 2023

Annual Inspections and Receptions of Constituent Commandery(s)

Sir Knights of Indiana where so ever dispersed:

In pursuant to the provisions of Section 851 and 852 of the Laws of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Indiana, it is hereby ordered that the Constituent Commanderies of the Jurisdiction be inspected.

All Commanderies will be Inspected on the Opening with Rehearsal of Duties and the Inspection on an Order that will be held on the Stated Conclave of the Commandery that is being Inspected, unless prior permission has been given by the Grand Commander or Grand Inspector General to hold the Inspection or Opening on a separated date.

If a cancelation or the changing of a date is to happen for any reason a written request to the Grand Commander and Grand Inspector General must be received at least 2 weeks prior to the Original Inspection Date with the reason for the Cancellation/Change in Date unless in the case of an Emergency, we will follow the Next Sir Knight Up Philosophy, so you should think of re-casting prior to the Calculation or Change of Date of the Inspection or Order. This written request also must be received with a reason from the Eminent Commander of the Hosting Commandery and will include a new date with a 2–3 week advanced notice that will require approval of the Grand Commander and the Grand Inspector General before it is rescheduled. (We all have schedules to work with, please plan ahead for the date you set.)

1. The Battalion Commander shall inspect each Commandery within his Battalion with the following exceptions:
 - The Grand Inspector General or a Deputy Grand Inspector General(s) will be required to inspect the designated primary Commandery of each elected Grand Commandery Officer, excluding the Commandery of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder unless an additional Grand Officer(s) are members of that Commandery.
 - A fellow Grand Line Officer/Battalion Commander will inspect the designated primary Commandery of each appointed Grand Officer, if it is within the Battalion of the latter. Only the Grand Commander may authorize other exceptions or substitutions.
 - Deputy Battalion Commander(s) are suggested to assist in the grading of the Inspections and the Inspection of the Books and Records when possible.
2. Each Inspecting Officer will send a “Notice of Inspection” courtesy letter (email or mailed) to the Eminent Commander and Recorder at least 30 days prior to the Inspection if the letter is mailed, then an email copy is also to be sent to the Eminent Commander and Recorder and

CC'd to the Grand Inspector General and the Deputy Grand Commander. This letter is found on the Grand Commandery Website and will confirm the date, time, and location of the Inspection with the Inspecting Officer's time of arrival and will also include a copy of the blank reports to be fill out by the Recorder prior to the inspection. The requested completed reports will be provided to the Inspecting Officer upon his arrival (Activities Sheet, Recorder's Questionnaire, Cast list for the Order/Opening)

3. The records Inspected will be detailed on the Recorder's Questionnaire will include but not limited to:

- A report on the membership efforts.
 - Examination of the Recorder's and Treasurer's books, records, and accounts.
 - Examination of the paraphernalia and property of the Commandery.
 - Activity sheet.
 - Current 990-N Filed Tax Form.
 - Current copy of the By-laws dated by the Grand Commandery.
4. No Inspection will be deemed complete until the Inspecting Officer has reviewed all books and financial records of both the Recorder and Treasurer. If they are not presented at the Inspection, it shall be the duty of the responsible Officer (Treasurer or Recorder) to deliver the needed items to be inspected to the Inspecting Officer by or at the next stated Conclave of that Commandery or upon an agreeable date prior to the end of the Inspection Year if further time is needed but only with approval of the Grand Commander. Failure to comply may cause the Commandery to be placed upon probation until the obligation has been fulfilled.

*** The Battalion Commander/Inspecting Officer will leave the Inspection or Reception with ALL paperwork pertaining to the Inspection or Reception.**

5. Each Inspection will start promptly on the date(s) and time(s) mutually agreed upon with the respective Inspecting Officer.
6. The Inspection will be on the conferral of the Order of the Temple, the Order of Red Cross or the Order of Malta in Full Form. All Inspections must be completed by December 31st 2023.

*** All Commanderies should do their best to have a candidate for the Inspection if possible.**

7. It is preferred that the regularly elected and appointed officers of the Commandery fill their respective stations during the Opening for the Rehearsal of Duties, Reception and Order conferral. If necessary, officers and members may assume other stations, particularly during the Order. Commanderies are encouraged to work with each other to provide any needed assistance. If an actual candidate is present, the quality of the work is of prime importance.
8. Inspections may consist of up to two (2) Commanderies participating together for an Official Inspection with a minimum of 6 Members of Each Commandery present. Points for the Inspection will only be awarded when a participating Commandery has six (6) or more of its member's present (subject to review by the Battalion Commander and the Grand

Commander). If less than 6 members are present from a Commandery No Points will be awarded. If a Commandery not having the Required number of Sir Knights (6) Present at the Inspection of the Opening and or the Inspection on the Order to be able to receive a Grade, the Eminent Commander will be required to make a report to the Grand Commander within 30 days of the Inspection. They then will be placed on Probation till the end of the Commandery year or until they are able to complete an Opening and/or Order with the required number of Sir Knights present with or without assistance.

9. The Inspection will consist of the following: Inspection of Order and Opening can be done separately.
 - Short Form Opening with Rehearsal of Duties
 - 1 of the Following Order's, Order of Red Cross, Order of Malta or Order of the Temple in Full Form
 - Along with the Flag Presentation
 - Closing
10. The Inspecting Officer shall make his inspection report (Tally Sheet Landscape) of each Commandery to the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Grand Inspector General, the Deputy Grand Commander, as well as the Eminent Commander and the Recorder of the inspected Commandery within fourteen (14) days following the completion of the inspection. All other required paperwork will be kept by the Battalion Commander and made immediately available upon request. A full report of the Inspections may be discussed at the winter meeting and appropriate recognition will be made at the Annual Conclave.
11. The Battalion Guidon will be awarded to the Commandery in each Battalion who has the highest ritualistic score. The ritualistic score shall be the combined score Opening with Rehearsal of Duties, One of the following Order's (Order of the Temple, Order of Red Cross of the Order of Malta), Flag Presentation and Closing. All Commanderies will be graded according to the forms and procedures adopted for that purpose.
12. The two Commanderies scoring highest in each Battalion on the "Activity Score Sheet" will also be recognized by a ribbon presented at the Grand Commandery Session. The Commandery with the highest activity score in the state will receive the Grand Commandery Guidon for the coming year.
13. A Commandery(s) using an exemplar in place of an actual candidate will confer the Order as if they had an actual candidate and scored as such by the Inspecting Officer. (Hermits and Guards may be limited to 1 of each)

Instructionals

An Instructional may be held in lieu of an Inspection on the Order of the Temple when the Inspecting Officer, with the concurrence of the Grand Inspector General and approval of the Grand Commander deems that change to be in the best interests of the Commandery(s).

- If an Instructional is to be held, then the Commandery(s) participating will be required to hold an Order of the Temple for a Grade by the end of the Commandery Year, which must be attended by the Eminent Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, Recorder, Treasurer of

said Commandery and at least 2 additional Sir Knights from each Commandery which participated in the Instructional.

Bonus Points

- If a Sir Knight that is giving a credible ritual performance of the Prelates Address, Ode to the Skull, or the Junior Wardens address (Chamber of Reflection) for the first time at the Inspection by memory, they can receive an additional 100 points to this Sir Knight's Commandery only, the points will be reflected on the score sheet at the discretion of the Inspecting Officer.
- 500 Bonus Points will be awarded if a Commandery can Both confer the Opening with Rehearsal of Duties and on Order in Full Form with 100% of the cast members (*) being from that Commandery and by memory, without the use of rituals, these bonus points will be shown on the tally sheet. The Dais Officers must be present and in preform the work for the Opening and Rehearsal of Duties.
- (*) If a Sir Knight is participating in his first Order or Opening and he has been Knighted within 1 year of said Opening or Order and is using a Ritual, he will not be penalized on the Inspection Sheet.
- If the Grand Commander is present for the Order, it is his prerogative to award up to an additional 200 extra bonus points if he sees fit based on Commandery(s) performance, this may be awarded to either Commandery or both, if there are more than one Commandery being inspected.
- Scores will be equally given to the Commandery(s) participating in the Order based on the number of members participating in the Order (6 members minimum must participate in order to receive a score) The inspection of the Order may occur any time after June 1, 2023 and prior to the 31st of December, 2023.
- Inspection scores will be separated by officer ranking only. A non-member of any Commandery being Inspected will receive an officer score of 0 and Errors on the score sheet will not count against the Commandery(s) being Inspected. All members or officers of the participating Inspected Commandery(s) will receive an officer score of 1-20.

Reception of the Eminent Commander

Each Commandery will be **Required** to hold a Public Opening for the Reception of the Eminent Commander including the Presentation of the United States Flag, the Opening will be done without the Introduction of Distinguished Guests. Each Recorder and Battalion Commander will be giving the Ritual that is to be use that, which will have that part Omitted. Each Commandery (maximum 2 Commandery(s) will be allowed to participate together unless prior permission is given by the Grand Commander or the Grand Inspector General for up to 3) 100 points will be awarded for this on the Activity Sheet (6 members minimum to per Commandery participating to receive credit). If the Commandery chooses to do the 12 Man Open Reception of the Commander (without Distinguished Guests being introduced) they will

receive 250 points for each Commandery participating (6 members minimum; per Commandery participating to receive credit).

A Uniform Inspection of each Sir Knight will take place during the Inspection of the Lines portion of the Reception. An inspection grade of up to 20 additional points awarded per Sir Knight graded and will be awarded on the Activity Sheet.

- The public may be invited into the Asylum for the Open Reception of the Commander including the Flag Presentation and Triangle.
- Uniform Inspection: 20 points possible per Sir Knight being inspected and will be awarded on the Activity Sheet with points being awarded to the Sir Knights Commandery (If a Sir Knight belongs to 2 or all Commandery(s) being Inspected, points will be dispersed to only 1 Commandery at the Sir Knights request.
- Presenting the United States Flag: Points will be awarded on Score Sheet if not previously Scored during an Order.
- There are NO provisions in this portion of General Order #1 stating that “If a Eminent Commander has been Eminent Commander many time he may Opt-Out of having a Reception” If a Reception is not either held by a Commandery Separately or in Conjunction with an Order prior to December 31st 2023 then one will be required to be held prior to the end of the Templar Year.

Instructions following the Inspection of the Order or Reception, prior to Closing

Upon completion of each Inspection and prior to Closing, the Eminent Commander shall give his remarks first, followed by the Inspecting Officer. The Grand Commander, if present, will follow with his remarks. Whenever he is not present, the Inspecting Officer, acting as the Grand Commander’s Official Representative, shall be accorded all the honors and courtesies due him as such. If the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Indiana is present, he will speak after the Grand Commander; otherwise, the Grand Commander is the final speaker.

Thank You to all the Sir Knights of Indiana for your dedication to Indiana Templary!

This Order shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at their first Stated Conclave after its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2023 A.O. 905.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,

ATTESTED:

Randal P. Ellington
Edward E Fodrea

Randal P. Ellington, GPE
Right Eminent Grand Commander

Edward E Fodrea KCT, PGC, Grand Recorder





GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

**General Order No. 1A Ellington
July 30th, 2023**

Annual Inspections and Receptions of Constituent Commandery(s)

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If a cancelation or the changing of a date is to happen for any reason a written request to the Grand Commander and Grand Inspector General must be received at least 2 weeks prior to the Original Inspection Date with the reason for the Cancellation/Change in Date unless in the case of an Emergency, we will follow the Next Sir Knight Up Philosophy, so you should think of re-casting prior to the Calculation or Change of Date of the Inspection or Order. This written request also must be received with a reason from the Eminent Commander of the Hosting Commandery and will include a new date with a 2–3 week advanced notice that will require approval of the Grand Commander and the Grand Inspector General before it is rescheduled. (We all have schedules to work with, please plan ahead for the date you set.)

10. The Battalion Commander shall inspect each Commandery within his Battalion with the following exceptions:
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 - A fellow Grand Line Officer/Battalion Commander will inspect the designated primary Commandery of each appointed Grand Officer, if it is within the Battalion of the latter. Only the Grand Commander may authorize other exceptions or substitutions.
 - Deputy Battalion Commander(s) are suggested to assist in the grading of the Inspections and the Inspection of the Books and Records when possible.

11. Each Inspecting Officer will send a “Notice of Inspection” courtesy letter (email or mailed) to the Eminent Commander and Recorder at least 30 days prior to the Inspection if the letter is

mailed, then an email copy is also to be sent to the Eminent Commander and Recorder and CC'd to the Grand Inspector General and the Deputy Grand Commander. This letter is found on the Grand Commandery Website and will confirm the date, time, and location of the Inspection with the Inspecting Officer's time of arrival and will also include a copy of the blank reports to be fill out by the Recorder prior to the inspection. The requested completed reports will be provided to the Inspecting Officer upon his arrival (Activities Sheet, Recorder's Questionnaire, Cast list for the Order/Opening)

12. The records Inspected will be detailed on the Recorder's Questionnaire will include but not limited to:

- A report on the membership efforts.
 - Examination of the Recorder's and Treasurer's books, records, and accounts.
 - Examination of the paraphernalia and property of the Commandery.
 - Activity sheet.
 - Current 990-N and NP-20 Tax Forms Filed.
 - Current copy of the By-laws dated by the Grand Commandery.
13. No Inspection will be deemed complete until the Inspecting Officer has reviewed all books and financial records of both the Recorder and Treasurer. If they are not presented at the Inspection, it shall be the duty of the responsible Officer (Treasurer or Recorder) to deliver the needed items to be inspected to the Inspecting Officer by or at the next stated Conclave of that Commandery or upon an agreeable date prior to the end of the Inspection Year if further time is needed but only with approval of the Grand Commander. Failure to comply may cause the Commandery to be placed upon probation until the obligation has been fulfilled.

*** The Battalion Commander/Inspecting Officer will leave the Inspection or Reception with ALL paperwork pertaining to the Inspection or Reception.**

14. Each Inspection will start promptly on the date(s) and time(s) mutually agreed upon with the respective Inspecting Officer.
15. The Inspection will be on the conferral of the Order of the Temple, the Order of Red Cross or the Order of Malta in Full Form. All Inspections must be completed by December 31st 2023.

*** All Commanderies should do their best to have a candidate for the Inspection if possible.**

16. It is preferred that the regularly elected and appointed officers of the Commandery fill their respective stations during the Opening for the Rehearsal of Duties, Reception and Order conferral. If necessary, officers and members may assume other stations, particularly during the Order. Commanderies are encouraged to work with each other to provide any needed assistance. If an actual candidate is present, the quality of the work is of prime importance.
17. Inspections may consist of up to two (2) Commanderies participating together for an Official Inspection with a minimum of 6 Members of Each Commandery present. Points for the Inspection will only be awarded when a participating Commandery has six (6) or more of its

member's present (subject to review by the Battalion Commander and the Grand Commander). If less than 6 members are present from a Commandery No Points will be awarded. If a Commandery not having the Required number of Sir Knights (6) Present at the Inspection of the Opening and or the Inspection on the Order to be able to receive a Grade, the Eminent Commander will be required to make a report to the Grand Commander within 30 days of the Inspection. They then will be placed on Probation till the end of the Commandery year or until they are able to complete an Opening and/or Order with the required number of Sir Knights present with or without assistance.

18. The Inspection will consist of the following: Inspection of Order and Opening can be done separately.
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 - 1 of the Following Order's, Order of Red Cross, Order of Malta or Order of the Temple in Full Form
 - Along with the Flag Presentation
 - Closing
14. The Inspecting Officer shall make his inspection report (Tally Sheet Landscape) of each Commandery to the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Grand Inspector General, the Deputy Grand Commander, as well as the Eminent Commander and the Recorder of the inspected Commandery within fourteen (14) days following the completion of the inspection. All other required paperwork will be kept by the Battalion Commander and made immediately available upon request. A full report of the Inspections may be discussed at the winter meeting and appropriate recognition will be made at the Annual Conclave.
15. The Battalion Guidon will be awarded to the Commandery in each Battalion who has the highest ritualistic score. The ritualistic score shall be the combined score Opening with Rehearsal of Duties, One of the following Order's (Order of the Temple, Order of Red Cross of the Order of Malta), Flag Presentation and Closing. All Commanderies will be graded according to the forms and procedures adopted for that purpose.
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17. A Commandery(s) using an exemplar in place of an actual candidate will confer the Order as if they had an actual candidate and scored as such by the Inspecting Officer. (Hermits and Guards may be limited to 1 of each)

Instructionals

An Instructional may be held in lieu of an Inspection on the Order of the Temple when the Inspecting Officer, with the concurrence of the Grand Inspector General and approval of the Grand Commander deems that change to be in the best interests of the Commandery(s).

- If an Instructional is to be held, then the Commandery(s) participating will be required to hold an Order of the Temple for a Grade by the end of the Commandery Year, which must be

attended by the Eminent Commander, Generalissimo, Captain General, Recorder, Treasurer of said Commandery and at least 2 additional Sir Knights from each Commandery which participated in the Instructional.

Bonus Points

- If a Sir Knight that is giving a credible ritual performance of the Prelates Address, Ode to the Skull, or the Junior Wardens address (Chamber of Reflection) for the first time at the Inspection by memory, they can receive an additional 100 points to this Sir Knight's Commandery only, the points will be reflected on the score sheet at the discretion of the Inspecting Officer.
- 500 Bonus Points will be awarded if a Commandery can Both confer the Opening with Rehearsal of Duties and on Order in Full Form with 100% of the cast members (*) being from that Commandery and by memory, without the use of rituals, these bonus points will be shown on the tally sheet. The Dais Officers must be present and in preform the work for the Opening and Rehearsal of Duties.
- (*) If a Sir Knight is participating in his first Order or Opening and he has been Knighted within 1 year of said Opening or Order and is using a Ritual, he will not be penalized on the Inspection Sheet.
- If the Grand Commander is present for the Order, it is his prerogative to award up to an additional 200 extra bonus points if he sees fit based on Commandery(s) performance, this may be awarded to either Commandery or both, if there are more than one Commandery being inspected.
- Scores will be equally given to the Commandery(s) participating in the Order based on the number of members participating in the Order (6 members minimum must participate in order to receive a score) The inspection of the Order may occur any time after June 1, 2023 and prior to the 31st of December, 2023.
- Inspection scores will be separated by officer ranking only. A non-member of any Commandery being Inspected will receive an officer score of 0 and Errors on the score sheet will not count against the Commandery(s) being Inspected. All members or officers of the participating Inspected Commandery(s) will receive an officer score of 1-20.

Reception of the Eminent Commander

Each Commandery will be **Required** to hold a Public Opening for the Reception of the Eminent Commander including the Presentation of the United States Flag, the Opening will be done **(AMMENDED TO READ) with or without the Introduction of Distinguished Guests at the Eminent Commander's decision.** Each Recorder and Battalion Commander will be giving the Ritual that is to be use that, which will have that part Omitted. Each Commandery (maximum 2 Commandery(s) will be allowed to participate together unless prior permission is given by the Grand Commander or the Grand Inspector General for up to 3) 100 points will be awarded for this on the Activity Sheet (6 members minimum to per

Commandery participating to receive credit). If the Commandery chooses to do the 12 Man Open Reception of the Commander (**With or** without Distinguished Guests being introduced) they will receive 250 points for each Commandery participating (6 members minimum; per Commandery participating to receive credit).

A Uniform Inspection of each Sir Knight will take place during the Inspection of the Lines portion of the Reception. An inspection grade of up to 20 additional points awarded per Sir Knight graded and will be awarded on the Activity Sheet.

- The public may be invited into the Asylum for the Open Reception of the Commander including the Flag Presentation and Triangle.
- Uniform Inspection: 20 points possible per Sir Knight being inspected and will be awarded on the Activity Sheet with points being awarded to the Sir Knights Commandery (If a Sir Knight belongs to 2 or all Commandery(s) being Inspected, points will be dispersed to only 1 Commandery at the Sir Knights request.
- Presenting the United States Flag: Points will be awarded on Score Sheet if not previously Scored during an Order.
- There are NO provisions in this portion of General Order #1 stating that “If a Eminent Commander has been Eminent Commander many time he may Opt-Out of having a Reception” If a Reception is not either held by a Commandery Separately or in Conjunction with an Order prior to December 31st 2023 then one will be required to be held prior to the end of the Templar Year.

Instructions following the Inspection of the Order or Reception, prior to Closing

Upon completion of each Inspection and prior to Closing, the Eminent Commander shall give his remarks first, followed by the Inspecting Officer. The Grand Commander, if present, will follow with his remarks. Whenever he is not present, the Inspecting Officer, acting as the Grand Commander’s Official Representative, shall be accorded all the honors and courtesies due him as such. If the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Indiana is present, he will speak after the Grand Commander; otherwise, the Grand Commander is the final speaker.

Thank You to all the Sir Knights of Indiana for your dedication to Indiana Templary!

This Order shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at their first Stated Conclave after its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2023 A.O. 905.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,

ATTESTED:

Randal P. Ellington
Edward E Fodrea

Randal P. Ellington, GPE
Right Eminent Grand Commander

Edward E Fodrea KCT, PGC, Grand Recorder





GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

General Order No. 2 Ellington
April 26, 2023

Special Dispensations

Sir Knights of Indiana where so ever dispersed:

By Order of the Grand Commander, the following information is hereby disseminated:
as, (but not limited to) Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, and
ITEM NO. 1, Dispensation is hereby granted to all Constituent Commanderies to appear in
uniform at any and all Patriotic Activities, such Veterans Day.

ITEM NO. 2, Dispensation is hereby granted to all Constituent Commanderies to move their
Charter and to appear in uniform at any time to portray the Orders of Templary or to assist in
any ceremonies at the Indiana Masonic Home at Compass Park with their approval

ITEM NO. 3, Constituent Recorders are hereby requested, prior to requesting a Dispensation
for any purpose, to first read the following Sections of the Constitution and Laws of the
Grand Encampment, Knights Templar 214, 215, 48(f)3, 177, 76, 145, and 48(f)1.

ITEM NO. 4, Constituent Commanderies are strongly urged to recite the Pledge of
Allegiance to the United States Flag prior to the opening of each Stated and Called
Conclaves.

ITEM NO. 5, A Constituent Commandery is not required to obtain special permission in
order to meet and conduct business jointly with Chapter and/or Council. Such authority is
found in Section 65(c) of the Laws of the Grand Encampment.

This Order shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at their first Stated Conclave after
its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2023 A.O. 905.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,
ATTESTED:

Randal P. Ellington

Edward E Fodrea

Randal P. Ellington, GPE

Right Eminent Grand Commander



Edward E Fodrea KCT, PGC, Grand Recorder



GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

General Order No. 3 Ellington
April 26, 2023

Mentoring New Members and Junior Officers

Sir Knights of Indiana where so ever dispersed:

Maintaining interest in new Sir Knights and preparing Junior Officers for future leadership are important issues in the life of any Commandery. An active mentoring program can achieve these goals and the following program is directed for implementation and monitoring by each Commandery.

- Upon Knighting, each Sir Knight should be assigned a Mentor whose responsibility it will be to assist the new Sir Knight to remain an active member by inviting him to all functions personally, helping him become involved in the Commandery to the extent that the new Sir Knight is able, and answering all questions that he and his family pose.
- The Recorder is responsible for providing a “New Member Packet” to the new Sir Knight containing information about the Commandery and Templary. This may include a calendar, newsletter, Commandery history, philanthropies, and information on Conclaves, activities, and officers.
- Each new officer in the line will also be assigned a mentor, preferably a Past Commander or Dais Officer, to provide guidance and encouragement to the new officer and to instruct and answer questions he will have as he advances.
- The officer’s mentor shall make certain that the new officer has the proper ritual, tactics, officer’s handbook bylaws, and other information he needs to succeed. The mentor shall assist the new officer in preparing his uniform and equipment and assist him with proficiency in protocols and practices.

The Recorder will record the name of the mentors in the Notes Section in MMS and the Generalissimo will be assigned to administer and monitor the mentorship program and to oversee the development of new Sir Knights and officers. I have requested the Battalion Commanders and Deputies to assist you, the Eminent Commander, in implementing the program.

This Order shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at their first Stated

Conclave after its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2023 A.O.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,

ATTESTED:

Randal P. Ellington



Randal P. Ellington, GPE
Right Eminent Grand Commander

Edward E Fodrea KCT, PGC



GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

General Order No. 4 Ellington

April 26, 2023

Libations for Candidates under the Age of 21

Sir Knights of Indiana where so ever dispersed:

During the Order of the Temple, any candidate who is under 21 years of age
Must only receive non-alcoholic libations.

This Order shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at their first Stated
Conclave after its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2023 A.O.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,

ATTESTED:

Randal P. Ellington

Edward E Fodrea

Randal P. Ellington, GPE

Right Eminent Grand Commander



Edward E Fodrea KCT, PGC,
Grand Recorder



GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

General Order No. 5 Ellington
April 26, 2023
R. Frank Williams Award Program

Sir Knights of Indiana where so ever dispersed:

Sir Knight R. Frank Williams, KCT, PGC, HPDC and GPE who passed July 2, 2014, was instrumental in the National Holy Land Pilgrimage Program for over 25 years. He was the spearhead in getting Indiana involved in this great work.

Therefore, an award, being established in 2015 and will be continued in his honor. This Indiana Award will be given to the Commandery that contributes the most money to the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund each year. Whether you pay the full price of a minister to go to the Holy Land or just donate money to help send a minister, everything that is donated from your Commandery will count toward your Commandery's annual donation. The year will run from January 1st to December 31st of each year. Nominations of ministers to go to the Holy Land may be submitted to the Holy Land Committee, who will then select the minister to go based upon the funds available. Your Commandery may pay and select a minister of your choice by paying the complete cost of the trip.

The R. Frank Williams Award, a traveling trophy, will be presented at the Grand Conclave the following year for that Commandery to display for the year. A plaque will be placed on the award with your Commandery's name and year in which the award was presented.

It is the goal of the Grand Commandery of Indiana that sufficient funds each year are raised through the R. Frank Williams Award to send at least one minister to the Holy Land. The Grand Commandery is asking that each Commandery in the State of Indiana set a goal to donate at least \$100.00 to the Holy Land fund each year. Those Commanderies that donate at \$100.00 or more will receive a certificate showing the amount of their donation. With the continued funding, we will be able to meet our goal of sending at least one minister to the Holy Land from the State of Indiana each year.

This Order shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at their first Stated Conclave after its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2023 A.O. 905.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,

ATTESTED:

Randal P. Ellington

Randal P. Ellington, GPE
Right Eminent Grand Commander

Edward E. Fodrea KCT, PGC,
Grand Recorder



BULLETINS



GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

Bulletin No. 1 Ellington

April 26, 2023

Eminent Commander's Certificate of Merit Award

In order to honor the Eminent Commanders of Indiana who have completed a full term in 2023 and who have demonstrated that they are effective leaders will be eligible to receive a Certificate of Merit based upon the following criteria at the 2024 Grand Conclave.

- An Officer mentoring program is functioning in the Commandery.
- The Commandery had the required number of Sir Knights at their Inspection.
- The Commandery was represented at the 2023 Grand Conclave by Required Sir Knights or their Proxy's.
- The Commandery has knighted at least 1 candidate in the 2023/2024 Templar Year.
- The Commandery has accumulated at least 750 activity points on the Activities Sheet.

All Battalion Commanders will recommend the eligible Eminent Commanders in their Battalion's at the Winter Meeting of the Grand Commandery in January 2024.

This Bulletin shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at the first Stated Conclave following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2023 A.O. 905.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,

ATTESTED:

Randal P. Ellington

Edward E. Fodrea

Randal P. Ellington, GPE

Right Eminent Grand Commander



Edward E. Fodrea KCT, PGC, Grand Recorder



**GRAND COMMANDERY
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA**

Dispensation No. 2 Ellington

April 26, 2023

Distinguished Service Award for Sir Knights and Friends of the Commandery

In 1977, The Grand Commandery of Indiana established an award known as the "Distinguished Service Award." This award may be presented by the Right Eminent Grand Commander upon the recommendation of the Commander and dais officers of the Constituent Commandery to a Sir Knight who has given outstanding, loyal and devoted service to the Commandery. A lady or non-member may also receive this award as a "DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD FOR FRIENDS."

Each Indiana Commandery may nominate two (2) Sir Knights and/or (2) "Friends" per year upon the recommendation of its three dais officers. Nominations are made using the enclosed forms. The cost of the jewel, certificate and any engraving is borne by the Commandery nominating the individual and a check accompanying the nomination form will be sent to the Grand Recorder. The Grand Commandery furnishes a certificate. Full details of the award can be found in Permanent Resolution No. 3, Section 920 (a) of the Indiana Grand Laws. Further questions may be addressed to the Grand Commander or Grand Recorder.

Each Commander is urged to take advantage of this opportunity to recognize outstanding service to Templary on a local basis. We have many Sir Knights who attend meetings, give a helping hand, do the little things in conferring the Orders, or support the activities of the officers year after year. Any Sir Knight is eligible and there are no restrictions other than he is in good standing.

This Bulletin shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at the first Stated Conclave following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2023 A.O. 905.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,

ATTESTED:

Randal P. Ellington

Edward E. Fodrea

Randal P. Ellington, GPE

Right Eminent Grand Commander



Edward E. Fodrea KCT, PGC, Grand Recorder

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD FOR SIR KNIGHTS

Rules and Regulations

An award to be known as the "**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**" (for Sir Knights) was established by the Grand Commandery of Indiana on May 6, 1977, at the 123rd Annual Conclave. It is to be conferred upon members, who, by distinguished service to Templary are worthy of such an award. The recipients to be selected and the award to be presented as follows:

1. The recipient must be a member in good standing of a Commandery.
2. The Eminent Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General, will acting together, present the nomination for the award as suggested by members of their Commandery. The nomination shall be on forms to be provided by the Grand Recorder. **Said nomination shall be forwarded to the Right Eminent Grand Commander.** The Grand Commandery may appoint the Grand Recorder to assist him in the selection of recipients.
3. Those chosen to receive the award shall be made known by the Right Eminent Grand Commander at the Grand Commandery Conclave each year. The names of the nominees to receive the award shall be kept strictly confidential until announced by the Commander.
4. The award shall be limited to two (2) members from each Commandery in Indiana each year starting with the year 1977.
5. The award is to be presented to the recipient by the Eminent Commander of the recipient's Commandery, such presentation to be at a Stated or Called Conclave. It is strongly recommended that such presentation be open to the public, visitors and friends and is performed with proper ceremony with Sir Knights present wearing full Templar uniforms.
6. The award shall consist of a jewel engraved with the words "DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD, Grand Commandery of Indiana" In addition thereto an appropriate certificate of the award shall be prepared and signed by the Right Eminent Grand Commander, attested by the Grand Recorder. Also, the signature of the Eminent Commander and attested by the Recorder of the Commandery. The jewel and certificate shall be the same for all Commanderies and under the control of the Grand Commandery of Indiana.
7. The cost of the jewel, certificate and any additional engraving shall be borne by each Commandery presenting a nomination. Each Commandery will be send a check to the Grand Recorder accompanying the nomination form for the cost. If a check is not received then the nomination form will be returned to the Recorder of requesting Commandery.

**NOMINATION FORM
FOR A SIR KNIGHT DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander:

It is the unanimous recommendation of the Eminent Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General of _____ Commandery No. _____, stationed at _____ that the following Sir Knight, a member of said Commandery, be and hereby is nominated to receive the Distinguished Service Award for the Templar year

1. His full name is: _
2. His residence is _
3. The following facts are submitted as a justification for his nomination:

(If further space is required, continue on backside or attach a separate sheet.) Approved this: _
day of, _____

Eminent Commander

.....

Approved: Grand Commander_

Attest: Grand Recorder _____

Date: __

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD FOR FRIENDS

Rules and Regulations

An award to be known as the "**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD FOR FRIENDS**" was established by the Grand Commandery of Indiana on April 25, 1998. It is to be awarded to a Friend who has given service to the Grand Commandery, or a Constituent Commandery of Indiana, above that which can be expected of a non-member. The recipients to be selected and the award to be presented as follows:

- 1.** The Eminent Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General, will acting together, present the nomination for the award as suggested by members of their Commandery. The nomination shall be made on forms to be provided by the Grand Recorder. Commander may appoint the Grand Recorder and the Special Activities Committee to assist him in the selection of the recipients.
- 2.** Those chosen to receive the award shall be made known by the Right Eminent Grand Commander at the Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery each year. The names of the nominees to receive the award shall be kept strictly confidential until announced by the Commander.
- 3.** The award shall be limited to two (2) nominations from each Commandery in Indiana each year starting with the year 1998.
- 4.** The award is to be presented to the recipient by the Eminent Commander of the nominating Commandery, such presentation to be at a Called Conclave. Such presentation shall be open to the public, visitors and friends and be performed with proper ceremony with Sir Knights present wearing full Templar Uniforms.
- 5.** The award shall consist of a jewel with suitable fastener on back to be worn by a Lady or a lapel pin for a Gentleman. In addition, thereto, an appropriate certificate of the award shall be prepared and signed by the Right Eminent. Grand Commander, attested to by the Grand Recorder. Also, the signature of the Eminent Commander and attested to by the Recorder of the Commandery. The jewel and certificate shall be the same for all Commanderies and under the control of the Grand Commandery of Indiana.
- 6.** The cost of the jewel and certificate shall be borne by each Commandery presenting a nomination. Each Commandery will send a check to the Grand Recorder accompanying the nomination form for the cost. If a check is not received then the nomination form will be returned to the Recorder of requesting Commandery.

**NOMINATION FORM
FOR A
“FRIENDS” DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander:

It is the unanimous recommendation of the Eminent Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General of ___ Commandery No. ___, stationed at ___ that the following Friend of said Commandery, be and hereby is nominated to receive the Distinguished Service Award for Friends the Templar year

- 4. His/Her full name is: _____
- 5. His/Her residence is: _____
- 6. The following facts are submitted as a justification for His/Her nomination:

(If further space is required, continue on backside or attach a separate sheet.) Approved this ___ day of _____, _____.

Eminent Commander



Approved: Grand Commander_

Attest: Grand Recorder_____

Date:___



GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

Bulletin No. 3 Ellington

April 26, 2023

Knights Templar Cross of Honor

In accordance with the provisions of Section 237 (b) of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, USA, a meritorious award known as the Knights Templar Cross of Honor may be conferred by the Grand Master upon a deserving Sir Knight (or Knights, depending on Grand Commandery membership counts) of each Grand Commandery once each year.

Each Constituent Commandery of Indiana is invited to submit a nomination for the award. It is to be noted that this award is to be made only for exceptional and meritorious service rendered to the Order of Knights Templar far beyond the call of duty, and beyond the service usually expected of an Officer or Member. No Elected Grand Commandery or Grand Encampment Officer, past or present, is eligible to receive the award. This honor is for the Sir Knight of your Commandery who you consider has been, or is, outstanding in his Chivalric labors.

1. Should your Commandery desire to make a nomination for this award, you will use the following procedure.
2. Pass a resolution in your Commandery, naming the Sir Knight to be nominated.
3. Sent the Completed nomination form to the Right Eminent Grand Commander for approval.

Read the instructions on the reverse side of the form. Fill it out and forward it directly to Sir Knight Randal P. Ellington, REGC PO Box 335 Shelbyville, IN 46176.

The nomination form must be in the hands of the Grand Commander prior to February 1, 2024. Incomplete forms and those received after this date will not be considered. Your Commandery should reconsider those Sir Knights who have been nominated previously but who have never received the award.

This Bulletin shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at the first Stated Conclave following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2023 A.O. 905.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,
ATTESTED:

Randal P. Ellington
Randal P. Ellington, GPE
Right Eminent Grand Commander
Grand Recorder

Edward E. Fodrea
Edward E. Fodrea, KCT, PGC,



"KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR" RULES AND REGULATIONS

- (1) In accordance with the provisions of Section 237 (b) of the Statutes of the Grand Encampment, as amended at the 50th Triennial Conclave, the meritorious Award known as the **KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR**, shall be conferred by the Grand Master on behalf of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar to deserving Sir Knights of Constituent and Subordinate Commanderies upon certain conditions hereinafter set forth.
- (2) The **KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR** shall be awarded "only for exceptional and meritorious service rendered to the Order, far beyond the call of duty, and beyond the service usually expected of an officer or member." In deciding upon the award, precedents shall be entirely ignored, and each case shall be decided upon its own unusual merits. No posthumous award shall be made, and no present or past elected Grand Officer of a Grand Commandery shall be eligible for the award.
- (3) Only one nomination may be made from a Grand Commandery membership of 5,000 or less, plus one additional nomination may be made by a Grand Commandery for each additional 5,000 of its members, or major fraction thereof, during any one year. Only one nomination may be made from the total of the Subordinate Commanderies during one year.
- (4) The procedure to be followed for making nominations for this Award shall be as follows:
 - a. Any Constituent Commandery desiring to make a nomination shall first adopt a formal resolution, setting forth the full name of its nominee, and the nature of the meritorious service upon which such nomination is based.
 - b. The Commander of such Constituent Commandery shall thereupon cause to be filled-in a nomination form to be supplied by the Grand Recorder of his Grand Commandery, giving the date, full name of the nominee, address, and Templar rank, name of his Commandery and a statement of the nature of the meritorious service upon.
 - c. Such Nomination Form shall be signed by the Commander of such Constituent Commandery and shall be forwarded by him to the Grand Commander of his jurisdiction for consideration.
 - d. Such Grand Commander shall consider nominations made Constituent Commanderies of his Grand Commandery upon Nomination Forms and shall select only one nominee (more where qualified) in anyone year; upon making such selection, the Grand Commander shall affix his written approval to such Nomination Form and shall thereupon send the name to the Grand Master.
 - e. Any Subordinate Commandery desiring to make a nomination for this Award shall follow the same procedure as is set forth above for Constituent Commanderies, except that such Subordinate Commandery desiring to make a nomination, shall forward the Nomination Form to be supplied by the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment, and the same shall bear the written approval of the Commander of such Subordinate Commandery before being sent by to the Grand Master.
- (5) The **KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR** medal shall consist of a round, gold-finished medal, the outer circle of which shall bear the words "KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR," showing through in black enamel, and in the center shall appear the Patriarchal Cross of the Grand Encampment in purple enamel. Such medal shall be suspended from a gold-finished bar by two small chain links on either side; upon the face of the bar shall be engraved the name of the Sir Knight who shall be the recipient thereof. The **KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR** Medal may be worn upon the uniform by the recipient upon all occasions.
- (6) A suitable Certificate of Award, issued by the Grand Encampment, signed by the Grand Master and the Grand Recorder, and bearing the seal of the Grand Encampment

thereon, shall accompany the medal. The Certificate shall contain a summary of the Citation upon which such Award is based.

(7) It shall be the responsibility of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar to provide the medals, the Certificates of Award for the KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR, without any cost to the recipient or to his Constituent or Grand Commandery, or his Subordinate Commandery. Presentation of the KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR Medals, Certificates shall be made at an appropriate ceremony by Grand Commanderies and Subordinate Commanderies, and a report thereof sent by the respective Recorder to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Encampment within thirty days thereafter.

**NOMINATION FOR THE AWARD
"KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CROSS OF HONOR"**

_____ Commandery No. _____ Knights Templar of
Indiana Stationed at _____, Indiana this _____ day
of _____ in the year of _____ adopted a motion to nominate the
following Sir Knight, one of its own members to be awarded the "Knights Templar Cross of
Honor" for the Templar Year _____.

Full name:

(First) (Middle) (Last)

Address:

(Street Address) (City) (State) (Zip
Code)

Highest templar rank: _____

The following facts are submitted as a justification of his nomination:

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 20____ by Sir Knight
_____ Eminent Commander of
_____ Commandery No. _____.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 20____ by Sir Knight
_____ Right Eminent Grand
Commander,
Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 20____ by Sir Knight
_____ Most Eminent Grand Master,
Knights Templar of the United States of America.

Important: Please follow instructions for filling in the form for the Nomination of the Award for the Knights Templar Cross of Honor and the criteria for its awarding is found in Section 237(b) of the Grand Encampment Constitution, Statutes, Disciplinary Rules, Standing Resolutions, Ceremonies, Forms and Approved Decisions which are on the back of this page.

Must be in the hands of the Grand Encampment Office at least 2 Months presentation



GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

Bulletin No. 4 Ellington

April 26, 2023

Ritual Award Program

The Ritual Awards Program has been revised and is currently on the Grand Commandery website. The scoring system has been altered slightly.

At the Grand Conclave in April 2023, if a Sir Knight competes in the Prelate's Address, Junior Warden's Address, or Ode to the Skull at the Ritual Competition Program and gives a Credible Performance the Sir Knight will be able to add those points toward the Ritual Awards Program score sheet.

The Ritual Award Bar is approved for Standard Class "A" Uniform wear. Please read the attached form for information regarding the program.

This Bulletin shall be read at the first Stated Conclave of each Constituent Commandery following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2023 A.O. 905.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,

Randal P. Ellington

Randal P. Ellington, GPE
Right Eminent Grand Commander

ATTESTED:

Edward E Fodrea

Edward E Fodrea KCT, PGC, Grand Recorder



Order of the Red Cross	
Sovereign Master	120
Prince Chancellor	30
Prince Master of the Palace	30
Master of Cavalry	30
Master of Infantry	100
Excellent High Priest	70
Master of Finance	5
Master of Dispatches	5
Warder	35
Jewish Guard	5
Persian Guard	15
Vow	45
Sash	10
Sword	10
Means of Recognition	30
Banner of the Order	20
Historical Lecture	90

Jewish Council	
Jerimiah	15
Isiah	15
Haggai	15
Hosea	15
Obadiah	15
Amos	

Mediterranean Pass	
Prior	60
Chaplain	5
Marshall	15
Captain of the Outpost	15

Order of Malta	
Prior	170
Lieutenant Commander	5
Captain General	5
Chaplain	5
Marshall	75
Captain of the Outpost	15
Birth Banner	30
Life Banner	30
Death Banner	30
Resurrection Banner	30
Ascension Banner	30
Table in the West	50
St. John Banner	20
Malta Banner	5

Order of the Temple	
Commander	205
Generalissimo	15
Captain General	50
Senior Warden	55
Junior Warden	90
Prelate	160
Standard Bearer	5
Sword Bearer	10
Warder	40
Hermit	15
Prelate's Escort	15
Guards	10
Ode to the Skull	25
Sword	25
Baldric	10
Spur	5
Chapeau	10
Remaining Attributes	45
Banners	20
Flag Lecture	25
Explanatory Lecture	80

Procedure to submit form for award:	
Review the list of parts and lectures. Initial the points by the parts that you have given from Memory twice during the Orders. Add-up the total points.	
Enter the total number of points here:	<input style="width: 80px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
PLEASE PRINT:	
Name:	_____
Address:	_____
City:	_____
State/Zip:	_____
Telephone:	_____
E-Mail:	_____
Commandery Name & #	_____
Signature:	_____
Date:	_____

Ritual Award Program

As a way of increasing the interest and participation in the ritual work at the local level, the Grand Commandery of the State of Indiana has instituted a “**Ritual Award Program.**”

The program is based on the three Orders conferred in the Commandery. The award is a Bar that is able to be worn Uniform in accordance to the Uniform Regulations. Each Ritual part must have been performed at least two (2) times for credit. All work is to be done from memory and in full form unless preformed at a Ritual Tournament. You are expected to do a creditable job in the part you are exemplifying. This implies not just memorization but also correct tactics, vocal emphasis, gestures, etc. appropriate to the part.

Credit for previous exemplifications will be accepted on your honor as a Knight Templar.

There are four levels of proficiency for the Program:

Level 1: Pilgrim – 150 points



Level 2: Warrior – 400 points



Level 3: Knight – 800 points



Level 4: Commander – 1,200 points
Same bar as Knight with a diamond chip in the cen



THE CHALLENGE

As a Knight Templar, you are challenged to select and perform from the various parts and lectures from the rituals of the three Orders that make up the Commandery. This provides you with an opportunity to play an active role within your Commandery. By taking part in this program, you will be making YOURSELF a dedicated Ritualist and your Commandery stronger. This Program is a Honor System and is a Voluntary, Self-Recognition Program where you are Awarded Ritual Bars based upon your own merits and participation in this program.

On the reverse side of this form are the point values for the different parts. Please keep a personal record of the point value for the parts you have done that way you have an arcuate point total to achieve the next level for your records. Once you have the accumulated the necessary number of points to receive a Ritual Bar for the appropriate Level, you may purchase the it directly from The Masters Craft.

If you have any questions or concerns you may contact the Grand Recorder for further information.



**GRAND COMMANDERY
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA**

Bulletin No. 5 Ellington

April 26, 2023

Battalion Commander and Deputy Battalion Commander Visits

It is the expectation that each Battalion Commander will provide support to the Commandery's for which they are responsible for, by visiting those Commandery's on a regular basis. If available, it is now permissible for Battalion Commanders to attend the meetings of their respective Commandery's virtually (via Zoom, WebEx, etc) if the officers of the Visiting Commandery are agreeable and have the capability to do so. Whatever platform or technology that is chosen to allow the Battalion Commander to attend virtually, it must be secure in order to prevent attendance by any unauthorized participants.

Battalion Commanders are still expected to be in-person with their respective Commanderies and DBC's are encouraged to attend the following events:

- Receptions within your Battalion and also attend other Receptions when available
- Inspections within your Battalion and also attend other Inspections when available.
- Inspection of the books and records of the Commandery's in your Battalion.
- Be present at Templar Orders and York Rite Classes within your Battalions and outside of your Battalion when available.
- A Visitation Report is to be filled out and sent to the VEDGC within 7 days of your visit.
- If a DBC Makes a Visit without the Battalion Commander present, he will be required to file a report with his Battalion Commander so he may include that in his reports.
- DBC's are encouraged to assist the Battalion Commanders and take part in the grading of the inspections and the inspection of the books and records.
- Be present at Grand Commandery Functions when required or requested such as Grand Conclave, East Central Department Meeting, Summer and Winter Meetings etc.)

This Bulletin shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at the first Stated Conclave following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2023 A.O. 905.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,
ATTESTED:

Randal P. Ellington
Edward E Fodrea

Randal P. Ellington, GPE
Right Eminent Grand Commander



Edward E Fodrea KCT, PGC, Grand Recorder



GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

Bulletin No. 6 Ellington

April 26, 2023

Membership Crusader Jacket Award

As an additional way of rewarding a Sir Knight for their efforts in the recruitment of New Sir Knights the Grand Commandery is reinstating The Crusader Jacket Award Program, this Program resulted in an increase in membership and was a very well received by the Sir Knights.

The details of the Program are as follows:

- If you are a top line signer of 10 petitions with the New Sir Knights knighted Between April 1st 2023 and March 31st 2024, and the Recorder has entered the information into MMS, you will receive a Crusader jacket.
- If you are the Eminent Commander and your Commandery has a net gain in membership of 5 Sir Knights you also will receive a jacket.
- The Crusader Jackets will be awarded to the Sir Knights at the 2023/2024 Grand Conclave.
- The Crusader Jacket is an Award of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana and the ONLY Vendor selected by the Grand Commandery may issue items with this logo. The Crusader Logo may not be copied or reproduced for sale or use in the State of Indiana by any Sir Knight or Business without the express consent of the Grand Commandery of Indiana and the Authorized Vendor.

This Bulletin shall be read at the first Stated Conclave of each Constituent Commandery following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2023 A.O. 905.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,

ATTESTED:

Randal P. Ellington

Edward E Fodrea

Randal P. Ellington, GPE

Right Eminent Grand Commander



Edward E Fodrea KCT, PGC, Grand Recorder



**GRAND COMMANDERY
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA**

Bulletin No. 7 Ellington

April 26, 2023

Membership Crusader Jacket Award

As an additional way of rewarding a Sir Knight for their efforts in the recruitment of New Sir Knights the Grand Commandery is reinstating The Crusader Jacket Award Program, this Program resulted in an increase in membership and was a very well received by the Sir Knights.

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This Bulletin shall be read at the first Stated Conclave of each Constituent Commandery following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2023 A.O. 905.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,

Randal P. Ellington, GPE

Randal P. Ellington

Right Eminent Grand Commander



ATTESTED:

Edward E Fodrea KCT, PGC,
Grand Recorder



GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

Bulletin No. 8 Ellington

May 22, 2023

Passing of Sir Knight Tony S. Peterson, KCT, KTCH Grand Prelate Emeritus – 2013

**Aide to the Right Eminent Grand Commander Grand Marshal of the Grand
Commandery Grand Commandery Photographer**

I regret to inform you that, Sir Knight Tony S. Peterson, has passed away on May 20th 2023.

Sir Knight Peterson was a proud Freemason of Indiana. He followed in his family's footsteps and was raised a Master Mason at Hamilton County Masonic Lodge No 533 in 2003 and he also served the Lodge as Worshipful Master. Tony joined Noblesville York Rite in 2005 and had a very distinguished career in Masonry with his Lady Monica ever at his side. He was an amazing servant to the fraternity, always willing to use his skills and expertise when called upon. He has served as an Aide to the Grand Commander or Deputy Grand Commander since 2010. Tony had the honor of becoming a Grand Prelate Emeritus in 2013, receiving the Knight York Cross of Honor, Knight Templar Cross of Honor in 2017 and the Knight Commander of the Temple in 2021.

Tony also served as the Grand Sentinel for Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Indiana in 2022 and Grand Marshal for the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Indiana in 2018. He currently was serving the Grand Commandery as Grand Marshal, Grand Photographer and Aide to the Grand Commander at the time of his passing.

Services will be held at Randall & Roberts Fishers Mortuary, 12010 Allisonville Rd, in Fishers, IN 46038.

A Celebration of Life will be from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m with a Knights Templar Honor Guard. The Knights Templar Memorial Service will begin at 7:00 followed by the Masonic Memorial Service and then a Celebration of Life to follow.

Lady Monica is requesting that donations be made in lieu of flowers in his name to:

Indiana Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund C/O Randal Ellington, REGC
PO Box 335
Shelbyville, IN 46176

I am directing that all Commanderies drape their Charters for 30 days after receiving this Bulletin.

This Bulletin shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at the first Stated Conclave following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 8th day of March, A.D. 2022, A.O. 904

This Bulletin shall be read at the first Stated Conclave of each Constituent Commander following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 22nd day of May, A.D. 2023 A.O. 905.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,

Randal P. Ellington

Randal P. Ellington, GPE

ATTESTED:

Edward E Fodrea

Right Eminent Grand Commander

Edward E Fodrea KCT, PGC, Grand Recorder





GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

Bulletin No. 9 Ellington

July 30th, 2023

Passing of Sir Knight Edward L. Sebring, KCT, KTCH Grand Prelate Emeritus 2007 - 2008

I regret to inform you that, Sir Knight Edward L. Sebring has laid down his working tools on July 20th 2023 and has past to the Celestial Lodge above to join with his Lord and Savor.

Sir Knight Edward L. Sebring, known affectionately as "Big Ed" for his big heart and voice, passed away peacefully on July 20, 2023. He was surrounded by the love of his life, companion and soulmate Cindy Rider, and their cherished family. He is survived by his stepchildren, Brian Rider (Lisa) and Christie Spalla (Dave), whom he loved dearly and treated as his own, as well as his grandchildren who brought immeasurable happiness to his life. His beloved cat Kallie held a special place in his heart, providing comfort and companionship during quiet moments. He is also survived by his former wife, Jo Ellen Keller (Earle) and was preceded in death by their son Charles "Chuck" Stodghill Sebring, whom we are confident greeted him with "Hey old man, what took ya so long?" and a hilarious rendition of "The Spanish Inquisition."

Born on September 25, 1946 in Vincennes, Indiana, to Paul F. and Louise Lorentz Sebring, Ed's life was a testament to kindness, faith, dedication, and service to his community. He was proud to have attended The Ohio State University, earning a bachelor's degree in Ancient History as well as an MBA, and nurturing a lifelong love for the Buckeyes. Ed found fulfillment and purpose in serving as a lay pastor for many Presbyterian congregations over the years. His favorite message was "God's in charge; we ain't!"

Ed's family extended beyond his immediate kin, as he was an esteemed member of Freemasonry for 55 years, and a DeMolay for 60 years receiving the Legion of Honor. He fully embraced the principles of brotherhood, charity, and integrity, serving in many leadership roles in Masonry, church, and the Boy Scouts. If you needed something done, Ed was your man.

With pen in hand and a heart full of stories, Ed made his mark as an award-winning writer for the Vincennes Sun-Commercial newspaper. His words captured the essence of local events and offered uplifting stories and insights that inspired the community and he was the longtime Editor of the Indiana Knights Templar Supplement.

A memorial service to celebrate Ed's life will be held at the Vincennes #1 Masonic Lodge on Saturday, Sept. 2, from 11:00 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. with a Knights Templar Honor Guard. In lieu of flowers or other gifts, the family kindly requests donations to be made in his honor to the Vincennes #1 Lodge F&AM, 501 Broadway, Vincennes, IN 47591; the Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice of the Wabash Valley, 400 8th Ave., Terre Haute, IN 47804; or the Masonic or community service organization of your choice.

Farewell, Big Ed. You will forever be remembered for your warmth, wisdom, and kind spirit. May you rest in eternal peace, knowing that your presence and loving legacy will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by all whose lives you touched. Bravo!

I am directing that all Commanderies drape their Charters for 30 days after receiving this Bulletin.

This Bulletin shall be read at the first Stated Conclave of each Constituent Commandery following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 30th day of July, A.D. 2023 A.O. 905.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,

ATTESTED:

Randal P. Ellington

Edward E Fodrea

Randal P. Ellington, GPE

Right Eminent Grand Commander



Edward E Fodrea KCT, PGC, Grand Recorder

DISPENSATIONS



GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

Dispensation No. 1 Ellington

April 26,

2023

Special Dispensation Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery of Research U.D.

Sir Knights of Indiana where so ever dispersed:

By the Order of the Grand Commander, the following information is hereby disseminated.

Dispensation is hereby granted to the Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery of Research U.D. to operate in accordance with Section 48C of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America and is authorized to continue Under Dispensation until the close of the 2024 Grand Conclave. Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery of Research U.D. shall continue in accordance with the Rules of Chapter VII of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America.

Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery of Research U.D. will be required to hold at least 4 “Stated Conclaves” must consist of at least 2 in person and 2 virtual Conclaves.

I am appointing the following officers of this Commandery of Research: Sir Knight Timothy Brinkmeyer, Eminent Commander, Sir Knight Carson Smith, Generalissimo, Sir Knight John Freeland, Captain General and Sir Knight Stephen Kroman, Treasurer/Recorder.

All Dues Notices, Records and Minutes and archival records of the presentations are the responsibility of the Recorder, with the Presentations made available to all the Sir Knights of Indiana.

This Dispensation shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at the first Stated Conclave following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2023 A.O. 905.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,

Randal P. Ellington
Randal P. Ellington, GPE
Right Eminent Grand Commander

ATTESTED:

Edward E Fodrea KCT, PGC, Grand Recorder





GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

Dispensation No. 2 Ellington
2023

April 26,

Special Dispensation Levant Preceptory

Sir Knights of Indiana where so ever dispersed:

By order of the Grand Commander, the following information is hereby disseminated.

Dispensation is hereby granted to Levant Preceptory to operate as a "Craft Club" under the Charter of Raper Commandery #1.

This Preceptory shall also conform to Section 260 of the Constitution of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America and use as its official uniform, ceremonial robes conforming to and consistent with the historical traditions and practices of Templary.

I am appointing the following officers of this Preceptory: SK Bruce Frazer, Eminent Commander, SK Andrew Bowman, Generalissimo, SK Mitchell Rohrbaugh, Captain General and SK Carson Smith, Director of Work.

These Appointments may be removed and New Appointments made at the discretion of the Grand Commander, without notice.

This Dispensation shall be read in all Constituent Commanderies at the first Stated Conclave following its receipt and be made a part of the minutes.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April, A.D. 2023 A.O. 905.

Fraternally Yours in His Name,

ATTESTED:

Randal P. Ellington

Randal P. Ellington, GPE
Right Eminent Grand Commander

Edward E Fodrea

Edward E Fodrea KCT, PGC, Grand Recorder

