Templars of the Plains

A Monthly Publication of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Kansas

From the Grand Commander

Sir Knight Patrick C. Carr, KCT, CTC, Right Eminent Grand Commander

The Right Eminent Grand Commander has asked the current Grand Commandery Officers to write articles each month for this supplement, except for this month.



Sir Knights, we are already at the time of the year where the leaves are changing, the winds are starting to blow a little bit harder, and the time has changed so it is dark when we leave work for home. In short, fall has already arrived and left and we are now starting those winter months which sometimes can be a bit daunting for us.

This is also the time of the year for the Thanksgiving holiday. In the United States, we gather together on the fourth Thursday of November to celebrate and give thanks for all which God has provided for us and for our friends and families. It is a time which we spend with our families.

I want us each to take a moment and think about what was just said. We spend Thanksgiving with our families. That is the intent of each of us, but what about those who may not have a family they can gather with? There are many reasons someone may not be able to be with their families. They may be living somewhere else and are not able to travel to see their family. They may not have a family because of either death or divorce. For our friends who are not able to be with their families, this can be a dark time of the year.

We each have an opportunity to brighten the lives of those who are unable to be with their own families. Be encouraged to invite them to your own table and have them share your meal on Thanksgiving. Or invite our first responders to eat with you. Most times they are unable to do that, but that does not preclude you from providing something and taking it to their location to leave for them on Thanksgiving.

No matter what you do, it will be appreciated and enjoyed by those who you choose to bless. I can also assure you that you will be blessed more by your hospitality than you will bless them. Luke quotes Jesus in Chapter six, verse thirty eight when Jesus said, “Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”

Continue to be a blessing to others, Sir Knights!

Patrick Carr

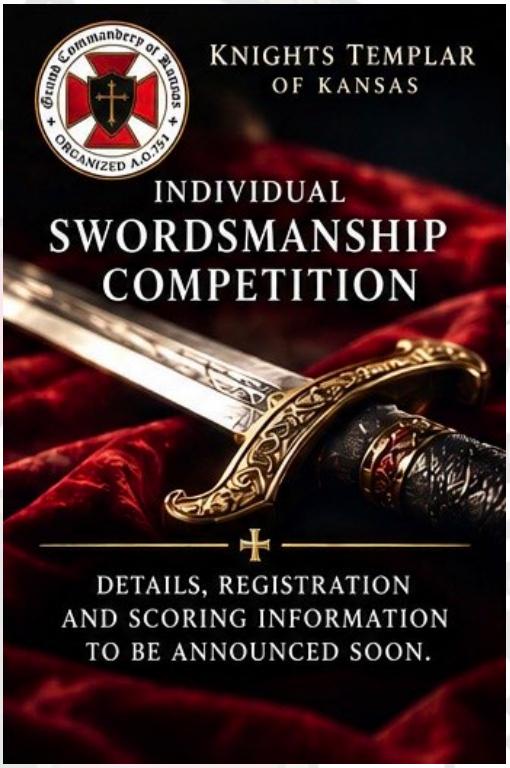
November, 2026

Patrick C. Carr

Right Eminent Grand Commander

2026-2027

Sword Proficiency and Competition



There has been some discussion throughout the Grand Commandery of Kansas concerning the ability for our Sir Knights to perform the necessary sword work. Sword work is important to use as Sir Knights. It is so important that it is included in each of our Orders and in the opening and closing of our Commandery in the Asylum. We need to be able to perform the sword work if we are to do the work charged to us as Knight Templars.

Since we are working to learn the work, and to be proficient in the proper use of the sword, it has been decided there will now be the first of its kind sword proficiency and competition here in Kansas. It is hoped this friendly competition will allow the Sir Knights of Kansas to be better prepared for the work done in each of the Asylums in Kansas. This is not a "dog eat dog" type of competition. Each Sir Knight will be judged and graded by a panel of three worthy Sir Knights who are proficient in the work. The competition will award the status of "proficient: to those who make a certain score with their own presentation.

The rules will be forthcoming very soon. The competition and proficiency testing will take place after the annual Grand Commandery School of Instruction which will be held on April 10, 2027. The location is being worked out and we expect to announce it in December. When it is announced, the proficiency judging requirements, and the score sheets, will be made available. This should give everyone time to prepare and get ready for the competition and proficiency judging.

Each Sir Knight who scores high enough to be declared proficient will receive a certificate sealed with the seal of the Grand Commandeyr of Kansas. There is a special award which will be presented to the Sir Knight who has the highest overall score on their sword proficiency at the competition in April. That award will be theirs to display for one year, and then it will be returned to the Grand Commandery for presentation to the winner of the sword proficiency competition at the next annual sword proficiecy competition.

