

Templars of the Plains

A Publication of the Grand Commandery of Kansas

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Robert D. McClarty, REGC 2022-2023

The York Rite and Recruitment

Sir Knight Patrick C. Carr, Eminent Grand Junior Warden

The Right Eminent Grand Commander has asked his other officers to write articles for the insert, and this month's article was written by our Eminent Grand Junior Warden.

Sir Knights, we are all extremely busy with our personal lives and our masonic endeavors. This leaves very little time to spend our time discussing the great benefits and prestige of belonging to the Commandery. We spend our time discussing the beautiful Orders contained within the Commandery with each other. We may spend time posting about our experiences on the various social media platforms and applications. We may even research and write about what we have discovered as members of our beautiful Order. What are we doing to share that light with the world, and with our Brother Masons who are not yet members of the York Rite?



One thing we can do is proudly discuss our love for Templarism when we are with our Brothers. There is never a poor time to discuss the beauty of joining our Order. On March 1, 2023, several of our Sir Knights were present at McPherson Lodge No. 172 for a presentation on the York Rite of Freemasonry in Kansas. I led the evening with a PowerPoint presentation on the entire York Rite and its importance to Blue Lodge masonry. Sir Knight Gary Mason, also the Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master for the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons in Kansas, presented a short program about the Council. Sir Knight Justin Crippen, our Eminent Grand Senior Warden, added his thoughts by presenting on the Knights Templar in Kansas. The evening was ended with a summation of the degrees and orders of the three York Rite bodies by myself and a discussion ensued with questions and answers about the York Rite.

At the end of the evening, several of our Brothers asked how they could join the York Rite. Several were interested specifically because of the Commandery. So what can we do? When asked to bring education to a meeting, either invite representatives from our York Rite bodies in Kansas, or make a short presentation yourself. I was amazed at how receptive our Brothers were to learning more about our Rites and Orders.

Sovereign Order of Knights Preceptor

There are several different masonic honorary bodies which have the prerequisite of being a Knight Templar to be considered for membership. One such body, the Sovereign Order of Knights Preceptor, meets annually at Masonic Week in Alexandria Virginia. This year, several of the members of our Order in Kansas, RE Sir Knight Bush Blackman, E Sir Knight Patrick Carr, E Sir Knight Jarrod Adkisson, and E Sir Knight Kelly Long, attended Masonic Week. Kelly was inducted into the Order of Knights Preceptor at the annual meeting.



The Order is available to sitting or past Commanders of a Commandery of Knights Templars recognized by the Grand Encampment of Knight Templars of the USA. It is a beautiful order and is open to all sitting or past commanders. If you have the opportunity to attend Masonic Week 2024, I would encourage you to pay the fee, attend and receive the order, and enjoy the time together with our Brothers, Companions, and Sir Knights from around the world.

Grand Commandery Conclave 2023

The 155th Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Kansas will be held on May 4, 2023, at the Bluemont Hotel in Manhattan, Kansas, and the public session will open promptly at 8:30 AM. The Past Commander's Association will hold their annual meeting and conferral of new members on Wednesday, May, 3, 2023. More information, and the registration form, can be found by visiting the Grand York Rite website at kansasyorkrite.org.

155th ANNUAL CONCLAVE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF KANSAS

Thursday, May 4, 2023

6:30 AM	Past Grand Commanders Wives Breakfast (Invitation Only)
6:30 AM	KYCH Breakfast (Members Only)
7:30 AM	Registration Opens
8:30 AM	Grand Commandery Open Meeting
10:30 AM	155th Annual Conclave Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Kansas (closed meeting)
12:00 PM	Joint Luncheon
1:30 PM	Pictures of Grand Commandery 2023-2024 Officers
2:00 PM	Installation of 2023-2024 Grand Commandery Officers
3:30 PM	2023-2024 Gr. Commandery Officers Meeting (officers only)
4:00 PM	Kansas York Rite College
6:00 PM	York Rite Dinner (Reservation Required)
7:00 PM	Memorial Service