



Lawrence J. Williams, R.E.G.C.  
**Grand Commandery Knights Templar  
Of Indiana**  
July 2017

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[www.indianaknightstemplar.com](http://www.indianaknightstemplar.com)



**Greene County Commandery #68**

Linton Masonic Temple, Linton, Indiana – Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017

## **July Birthdays:**

John B. McClelland, 20, 7/1  
Lady Wilma Friend, widow of Carroll Joe Friend, GPE, 7/1  
Richard J. Bechinski, Rec. 30, 7/1  
Lady Marilyn Smelser, wife of Charles A. Smelser, DBC 3, 7/1  
Norman D. Smith, 28, 7/1  
Lady Cynthia Virgin, wife of Michael Virgin, 3, 7/4  
Larry L. Deutscher, 12, 7/5  
Donald L. Borchert, GPE, 41, 7/6  
Clarence D. Harter, 41, 7/6  
Lady Shirley Wallace, wife of Jack F. Wallace, KCT, PGC, 7/6  
Lady Karen Johnson, wife of Charles E. Johnson, GPE, 7/8  
Michael Burke Johnson, REGCG, GE, 7/11  
Larry E. Gary, KCT, KTCH, PGHP, PGGHP, GGSEC 7/12  
Philip D. Whisner, KTCH, DBC 4, Aide, 7/13  
Lady Barbara Baird, wife of Pat Baird, 12, 7/16  
Glenn W. Schmidt, GSwdB, 7/17  
Eldred T. Glass, 35, 7/18  
John H. LaBounty, 57, 7/19  
Lady Denna Dimond, wife of Roger Dimond, 35, 7/19  
G. Donald Laudeman, III, 31, 7/20  
Jack F. Wallace, KCT, PGC, 7/21  
John A. Bridegroom, KCT, REGS, DBC 1, 7/21  
John E. Hylemon, KTCH, 41, 7/24  
Lady Ginny Sheets, wife of Wayne A. Sheets, KTCH, GPE, 7/25  
Lady Peggy Hylemon, wife of John E. Hylemon, KTCH, 41, 7/26  
Phillip A. Ritter, 32, 7/28  
Lady Donna Miller, wife of David Miller, 1, 7/28  
Carleton E. Hinshaw, 2, 7/30  
Lady Pat Tungett, wife of Ronald Tungett, KCT, PGC, 7/30  
Lady Casey Pittman, wife of Eric Pittman, 12, 7/30  
Andrew W. Wiley, 1, 7/31  
Edward E. Fodrea, 4, 35, 7/31

## **July Anniversaries:**

Bob & Nancy Frazer, 7/1  
Harold & Barbara Black, 7/2  
Carl & Gaylynn Dykman, 7/3  
Lloyd & Barbara Forney, 7/3  
Richard & Cindy Bechinski, 7/5  
Jim & Bonnie Dove, 7/6  
Jack & Shirley Wallace, 7/7  
Jim & Carol Davis, 7/11  
Charles & Janel King, 7/12  
David & Jeanine Marie Jenkins, 7/15  
Charles & Bonnie Huff, 7/18  
Lloyd & Barbara Atterson, Sr., 7/20  
Jeffrey & Elizabeth Reich, 7/20  
Steven & Lenora Keller, 7/22  
Michael & Barbara Gillard, 7/26  
John & Tammy Bridegroom, 7/27  
J. Robert & Marlene Fiers, 7/30  
Lloyd & Helen Marsh, 7/30  
Kris & Chere Phillips, 7/30

### ***Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Indiana Collectable Medallion***



This medallion, designed by John Bridegroom and issued by the Grand Commandery of Indiana, is a fundraiser for the 2018 Triennial to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana during the year that our own Duane Vaught will be the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment. Your purchase and support is very important. Please consider buying multiple quantities to receive shipping discount and to give away to your friends. Ask any Officer or go to <http://www.indianaknightstemplar.com/> to order one, priced at \$10.00 each.

## **Web Sites:**

**Indiana KT Web Site:** <http://www.indianaknightstemplar.com/>

**Grand Encampment KT USA:** <http://www.knightstemplar.org>

**National YR Information:** <http://www.yorkrite.org/>

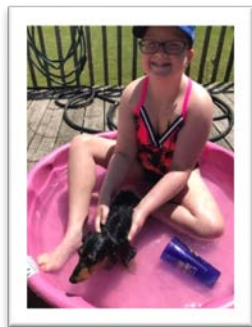
**Evansville York Rite:** <http://www.evansville.yorkrite.org/>

**Shelby County York Rite:** <http://www.shelby.yorkrite.org>

**Indiana Grand Commandery on Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/INGrandCommandery/>

## **Sickness & Distress:**

### **Phoenix Bridegroom's Journey – Friends & Family of Phoenix Bridegroom Facebook Site:**



June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017:

Hi Friends! I just wanted to pop in and let you all know that Phoenix is still feeling great and having a great summer. Next week she will see Dr. Morrison in South Bend, get some labs, and her monthly IVIG infusion. On June 21st she is scheduled to get her central IV catheter removed from her chest, and that means she will finally be able to swim (and shower) again! We have some exciting plans coming up... including Six Flags... and in July another trip to Philadelphia, and then Disney World! Thank you all for your continued love and prayers for Phoenix!

## **Contact Information & Red Book Directory Changes:**

Don Olvey (email update) – [don.ovley@gmail.com](mailto:don.ovley@gmail.com)

## **Upcoming and Important Dates:**

### **Monday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> – Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017: Baldwin Commandery Drill Corps Annual Pizza Stand**

5:00pm – 11:00pm

Shelby County Fairgrounds, 500 Frank Street, Shelbyville, IN

Contact: Donnie Robinette – [donnie.robinette@gmail.com](mailto:donnie.robinette@gmail.com)

### **Thursday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017:**

#### **Indiana Rainbow for Girls – FORMING ESCORT LINES AT OPENING**

Assemble at 6:15pm / Form Lines at 7:00pm

Clarion Hotel & Conference Center, 2480 Jonathan Moore Pike, Columbus, IN

Contact: Donnie Robinette, GCG – [Donnie.robinette@gmail.com](mailto:Donnie.robinette@gmail.com)

### **Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017:**

9:00am

#### **IN Grand Commandery Summer Meeting**

Indiana Freemasons Hall, 525 N. Illinois Street, Indianapolis

Contact: George Ingles, GR – [ginglespgc@comcast.net](mailto:ginglespgc@comcast.net)

### **Sat., July 15th, 2017**

9:00am

#### **Grand Council CM Crypt Rededication**

New Albany Masonic Temple, 805 E Market Street, New Albany

Info & Registration: [www.INGCCM.org](http://www.INGCCM.org)

### **Sat. July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017:**

1:00pm

#### **Grand Commandery Summer Picnic**

Compass Park (Indiana Masonic Home) Shelter Pavillion

Contact: George Ingles, GR – [ginglespgc@comcast.net](mailto:ginglespgc@comcast.net)

### **Sat. July 29th, 2017**

5:00pm

#### **LaPorte Commandery #12 150th Anniversary Celebration & GC Reception**

820 Jefferson Avenue, La Porte, Indiana

Contact: Richard Bechinski – [rjbech@comcast.net](mailto:rjbech@comcast.net)

**PICTURES? NEWS? PLEASE SEND THEM TO DONNIE ROBINETTE AT [DONNIE.ROBINETTE@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DONNIE.ROBINETTE@GMAIL.COM) FOR PUBLICATION IN FUTURE MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS! WE WANT TO HEAR WHAT YOU ARE DOING AT YOUR COMMANDERY. NO EVENT IS TOO BIG OR SMALL!**

## **EMERGING LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM**

This is the First Part of a Three-Part Program. The Level I will be taught by Sir Knight, John Palmer of the Grand Encampment. This program is aimed at those who wish to Learn or Improve their Leadership Skills. The classes will run from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm (All times are local time).

Cost is \$25 Per Person and will include lunch and materials. Register online at [www.indianaknightstemplar.org](http://www.indianaknightstemplar.org)

**August 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2017**

**Bedford Commandery #42  
915 15th Street, Bedford, IN**

**August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**South Bend Commandery #13  
427 North Main Street, South Bend, IN**

**August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**H. E. Lackey Commandery #67  
4990 Kessler Blvd E Drive, Indianapolis, IN**

## ***Announcing the Crusader's Cross***

The Knight Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. has a number of donation programs most with associated recognition programs. One of our primary contribution programs is the Grand Master's Club. These are contributions of \$1,000 which can be accumulated over time. These accumulations are known as the Grand Commander's Club (\$100 each until \$1,000 is reached). Currently Grand Master's Club donors receive a plaque and a lapel pin.

Many Masons like and collect lapel pins but most of us have more than we can wear. However, except for a few state programs, there has been no way to recognize this generosity when in uniform. Now there is.

We are introducing a new award, The Crusader's Cross, to thank our donors. The Jewel comes in 5 levels, \$1,000, \$2,000, \$3,000, \$4,000, and \$5,000 or above. The award can be worn on a uniform, sport coat or displayed in your home. The award jewels are displayed above.

The \$1,000 level has the single, larger cross in the center. Each additional \$1,000 is identified with an additional small cross in a quadrant until at \$5,000 or above all four quadrants are occupied to complete the emblem known as the Crusader's Cross also known as the Cross of Jerusalem.

Only the Grand Master's Club donations will count toward this award but we will also present these jewels to those who have already reached these donor levels in the past. In coming months, we will be sending jewels to these past donors as a well-deserved "thank you".

Website

<http://www.knightstemplar.org/ktef/>





## Indiana Supplement

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Lawrence J. Williams, GC

# The Story of Memorial Day

By SK Lawrence J. Williams  
Grand Commander

To the Sir Knights of Indiana:

We are coming into the summer season. It is a time for family vacations and celebrations but it is much more this. There are three holidays that we celebrate during the summer season. The first is Memorial Day. I know that by the time you receive your magazine Memorial Day will have passed but I would like to give you a little history on the holiday.

Memorial Day is a holiday that we should all stop and truly contemplate what it stands for. A day of remembrance of those who have served our country through our long history and gave the ultimate price to earn and preserve our Independence.

The following is from an article about the history of Memorial Day that I found at the web site [www.history.com](http://www.history.com).

"The history of this holiday starts shortly after the Civil War when it was known as Decoration Day. Families and friends of fallen soldiers would gather at cemeteries to place flowers and other decorations on their graves. Nobody knows for sure when this tradition started. It is believed that it started on May 5, 1866 in Waterloo, NY.

On May 5, 1868, General John A. Logan, leader of an organization for Northern Civil War veterans, called for a nationwide day of remembrance later that month. 'The 30th of May 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land,' he proclaimed.

The date of Decoration Day, as he called it, was chosen because it wasn't the anniversary of any particular battle.

On the first Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, and 5,000 participants decorated the graves of the 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried there.

Many Northern states held similar commemorative events and reprised the tradition in subsequent years; by 1890 each one had made Decoration Day an official state holiday. Southern states, on the other hand, continued to honor their dead on separate days until after World War I.

For decades, Memorial Day continued to be observed on May 30, the date Logan had selected for the first Decoration Day. But in 1968 Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which established Memorial Day as the last Monday in May in order to create a three-day weekend for federal employees; the

change went into effect in 1971. The same law also declared Memorial Day a federal holiday."

I encourage all Knights throughout the state to participate in your local events be it a parade, a Memorial Day service or placing flags on the graves of our fallen. But more importantly please keep all of our service personal former and current in your prayers.

## New Commandery: Greene County No. 68

LINTON — The chartering of a new Commandery in Indiana is an uncommon event, but the coming together of local, state and even national officials to confer that charter is even more rare.

On May 27, Grand Commander Lawrence J. Williams and officers of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana, came together in the Linton Masonic Temple to present a Charter to our newest Commandery, Greene County No 68, and install its officers. The charter presentation not only brought Commandery and Grand Commandery officers and members from throughout Indiana, also present and participating was SK Duane Vaught GCT PGC, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the United States of America, and SK Rodney Mann, KCT PGC, Grand Master of Masons of Indiana.

"May 27 is an important date in the recent history of Templary in Indiana," Williams told the assembled Sir Knights toward the close of the presentation. "It is on this date, that I and the Officers of the Grand Commandery had the honor and privilege to have taken part in forming a new Commandery of Knights Templar here in Greene County. We know that you will work hard to grow your Commandery and your membership.

"To the newly elected and appointed officers, I urge you to develop one-, three- and five-year plans. Make your plans realistic but not necessary easy to attain, and make them measurable. This does a couple of things: By setting goals it gives your membership something to work towards. It also creates friendships, companionship and respect within the membership. If your goals are known outside of your Commandery, it may just bring some new members as well.

"To the Sir Knights, work diligently on meeting these goals. If you see a way of improving the way things are done, let your thoughts be known. It is only by sharing our thoughts and experiences that we can grow.

"Once again, I want to welcome and congratulate Greene County Commandery No. 68 on becoming the newest Commandery of Knights Templar in Indiana."



LINTON — The newly installed officers of Greene County Commandery No. 68 are ready to go to work. Photo courtesy of SK Stephen Kroman, Photographer of the Grand Lodge