

**THE MASONIC ORDER
OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR
IN INDIANA**



**PROCEEDINGS OF
THE 169th ANNUAL CONCLAVE
OF THE
GRAND COMMANDERY OF INDIANA**

*Held in
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
APRIL 25th, 2023*

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
Grand Commandery Knights Templar
of Indiana**

ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONCLAVE

Held in Indianapolis, Indiana

Host

Raper Commandery #1 and Greenfield Commandery #39

April 25th, 2023

Presiding

Sir Knight Phillip D. Whisner, KCT, KTCH

Right Eminent Grand Commander

Elected

Sir Knight Randal P. Ellington, GPE,

Baldwin Commandery #2

The 170th Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Indiana

will be held at the

Horizon Convention Center, Muncie IN on

April 27th, 2024

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 169th Annual Conclave of the
Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana
were approved unless otherwise indicated or explained.**

**INSPECTING OFFICER
SIR KNIGHT JEFFERY A. BOLSTAD,
RIGHT EMINENT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
GRAND ENCAMPMENT, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**



SK Jeffrey A. Bolstad R.E. Deputy Grand Master Lewistown, MT SK Jeffrey Alan Bolstad has lived his entire life in various places in Montana. He was raised on a farm in extreme NE Montana, just a few miles from Saskatchewan and North Dakota. He studied at Montana State and Brown Institute of Broadcasting, which spawned a radio career that lasted 10 years. Eventually he was fortunate enough to be able to open up his own business as a State Farm insurance agent. SK Jeff began his Masonic journey on May 7, 1990 and has been heavily involved in the craft ever since. He was knighted at Bozeman in February 1998, then served as Grand Commander, and NWDC. He was elected GCG August 21, 2018 at Indianapolis. He has served in many leadership positions across the Masonic spectrum. He has filled the pulpit at several rural churches as an interim pastor over the years and also enjoyed reffing high school and college basketball. He has 2 sons and 6 grandchildren.



**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 Coronated 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.



**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**

David J. Kussman M. E. Grand Master
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David W. Studley R.E. Grand Captain General
PO Box 298, Mountain Ranch, CA 95246

Bobby Blackman Simmons R.E. Grand Treasurer
203 Williams Dr., Bonaire, GA 31005-3826 Res. Ph. (478) 922-7322
bsimmons@knightstemplar.org

Lawrence E. Tucker (Judy) R.E. Grand Recorder
5909 West Loop South, Ste: 495, Bellaire, TX 77401-2402;
Bus Ph. (713) 349-8700 E: larry@gektusa.org , ltucker@knightstemplar.org

SK Terry L. Plemons (Karen) R.E. Grand Prelate
7737 Colemere Dr., Chattanooga, TN E: tpchatt199@bellsouth.net

SK Martin R. Trent (Bonita) R.E. Department Commander, ECD
4276 S. Xenia Dr., Enon, OH 45323-1648 E: standrews619@yahoo.com

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 PHILLIP D. WHISNER, KCT, KTCH
RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER 2022-23**

GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE STATE OF INDIANA

Phillip (Phil) Whisner, also known as “Bear”, is an Indianapolis native, where he attended both high school (Warren Central) and college (Butler University). He retired from Allison Transmission where he was a journeyman tinsmith. He is married, with three grown daughters and five grandchildren. He enjoys attending various activities with the grandkids, attending Colts games with his wife, and golfing whenever he gets the chance. Phil is an active member of Southport United Methodist Church, where he helps lead a ministry focused on providing fresh produce to the local community.

Masonic Biography

Phil was raised as a Master Mason in Wayne Guthrie Lodge #753 in 1986. He is twice a past Worshipful Master and served as Secretary for almost ten years. Phil was initiated into York Rite in 2001. He was honored to receive the Distinguished Service Award twice and the Knights Templar Cross of Honor. He has served in numerous York Rite offices, participated in two drill teams, and is now humbled and honored to serve as Right Eminent Grand Commander for the Grand Commandery of Indiana.

Phil is a member of several other great organizations, including Indiana College #55 and Robert Wood Priory, KYCH. He is an active member of Isley York Rite College #129 and was honored to receive the Order of Purple Cross in 2018. Other Masonic and York Rite bodies that Phil is an active member in are High Twelve International (past president of chapter #122 and current president for state High Twelve association), St. Bernard de Clairvaux of Grand Council Allied Masonic Degree, Holy Arch Knight Templar Priests, Red Cross

of Constantine St. Basil Conclave, Tall Cedars of Lebanon (past Grand Tall Cedar, and recipient of the national Tall Cedar of the Year award), Royal Order of Scotland, and Sahara Grotto. Phil is also a member of Yeoman of York, Indianapolis Preceptory #4, where he is a past Director General and Grand Chaplain of Grand Yeoman of York.



2022 – 2023 Officers of the Grand Commandery

Front Row Left to Right

Mark Elder, Dominic Hamblin, Robert Frazer Joseph Sparks, Randal Ellington, Phillip Whisner, Randy Darling, Edward Fodrea, Jon McCracken, Dathan Reet

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Back Row

Tony Peterson, Doug Patmore, M. Bruce Scott, Brian Hooten, Rockly Meyers, Scott Sacek, Andrew Bowman, Mike Robbins, Christopher Thomas, Mitchell Rohrbaugh, Patrick Briney, Jeffery Prairie, Dan Patterson, John Jones, III, Barry Clouser, Lawrence Williams, John Freeland, Rob Hendrix, Art Tuesburg

**INDIANA GRAND COMMANDERY OFFICERS
2022/2023**

Phillip D. Whisner (1,39).....Right Eminent Grand Commander
(Connie) 5528 Greenhill Pl, Apt. "D", Indianapolis, IN 46237-7404, Phone (317) 431-3570,
E-Mail: p_whisner@aol.com

Randal P. Ellington, GPE (2).....Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander
(Dee) P.O. Box 335, Shelbyville, IN 46176 Phone (317) 364-3022 E-Mail: rpellington@gmail.com

Randy J. Darling, (2).....Grand Generalissimo
(Penny) 612 Miller Ave., Shelbyville, IN 46176 Phone (317) 642-6705; E-mail randyjdarling@gmail.com

Joseph L. SparksGrand Captain General
(Tracy) 564 Gettysburg, Coatesville, IN 46121 Phone (765) 376-2734; E-mail joseph.sparks86@gamil.com

Dominic Hamblin (4).....Grand Senior Warden
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Jonathan M. McCracken (42)Grand Junior Warden
(Rebecca) 142 Bono Rd, Orleans, IN 47452-7213 Phone (812) 849-0442;
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Robert J. Frazer, KCT, PGC (8).....Grand Treasurer
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(Christine) 11128 Hickory Tree, Rd, Fort Wayne, IN 46845 Phone (260) 417-9946 hfa.phd1@gmail.com

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Datan Reed (4).....Grand Standard Bearer
(Teresa) 4219 S 450 W, Claypool, IN 46510 Phone (574) 377-1236; E-Mail: dathanreed@hotmail.com

Douglas Patmore (15).....Grand Sword Bearer
(Shelley) 1592 E County Road 350 N, Rockport, IN 47635-8905 Phone (812) 393-9975;
E-Mail: coroner.patmore@gmail.com

Mark A. Elder (39)Grand Sentinel
(Kelly) 10618 Kensington Ln. Fortville, IN 46040 Phone (812) 393-9975;
E-Mail: mark.elder66@gmail.cokm

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(Living and affiliated as of March 31, 2023)**

Ronald Tungett, KCT (31).....1982-83
2813 Villa Ln., Benton Harbor, MI 49022 (Pat) Res. Ph. (616) 473-4010; E-Mail: rtungett@parrett.net

Ronald D. Simpson, KCT (36)1984-85
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Herbert G. Roach, KCT (20).....1985-86
11995 E 975 N., Odon, IN 47562 (Loretta) Res. Ph. (812) 636-4071; E-Mail: hroach@rtccom.net

Paul W. Friend, KCT (45).....1988-89
1243 S Golden Lake Rd., Angola, IN 46703 (Inger)
Res. Ph. (219) 665-7259; Bus, Ph. (219) 665-2189; E-Mail: pjfriend67@yahoo.com

John V. Stevens, KCT (36).....1989-90
PO Box 6968, Kokomo, IN 46902 (Jane) Res. Ph. (765) 452-9492; E-Mail: jvrsstevens@insightbb.com

Steven J. Barton, KCT, PECDC (9).....1990-91
333 N 600 E. Greenfield, IN 46140 (Sherry) Res. Ph. (317) 462-9592; E-Mail: ss.barton@comcast.net

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1740 E. Business E1, Mission, TX 78572 (Faye) Res. Ph. (812) 360-9762; E-Mail: jamesprairie@hotmail.com

Robert J. Frazer, KCT (8)1998-99
3208 N W “C” St, Richmond, IN 47374 (Nancy) Res. Ph. (765) 966-5684; E-Mail: Bobnancyfrazer@aol.com

George A. Ingles, Jr., KCT, PGM (65).....2003-04
3601 N Vienna Woods Dr., Muncie IN 47304 (Karen) Res. Ph.
(765) 284-1557; E-mail: ginglespgc@comcast.net

Ronald L. Ellis, KCT (14).....2004-05
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Bobby J. Roberts, KCT (18)2012-13
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8611 N 700 W., Fountaintown, IN 46130-9792 Res. Ph. (317) 835-4512; E-Mail: j43600@aol.com

Michael D. Ritter, KCT (32).....2014-15
4504 N. Ball Ave., Muncie, IN 47304-1118 Res. Ph. (765) 702-5491; E-Mail: mdritter70@comcast.net

James L. Bolinger, KCT (13).....2015-16
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Terry L. Kehrer, KCT (5).....2018-19
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Michael F. Robbins, KCT (42).....2019-20
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GRAND PRELATE EMERITUS

Thomas C. Patterson1984-85
1405 W. Taylor Street, Kokomo, IN 46901

J. William Myers.....1991-92
1460 E. US 20, Angola, IN 46703 (Ruth)

Robert S. Flint, KTCH1992-93
535 W. Mulberry Street, Kokomo, IN 46901

Rowland C. Gorman1994-95
11525 N. SR 9, Fountaintown, IN 46130 (Carol)

Gregory E. Snipes	2001-02
501 Sunset Dr., Noblesville, IN 46060 (Nancy)	
James Dimitri	2002-03
8786 Monroe Street, Merrillville, IN 46410	
Donald L. Borchert	2005-06
88 Oakhurst Drive, Munroe Falls, OH 44262 (Mickey)	
Edward L. Sebring.....	2007-08
316 Church St., Vincennes, IN 47374 (Cindy Rider).	
Byron W. Schull.....	2008-09
1242 S. 21 st St., Richmond, IN 47374	
Jerry O. Deeter	2009-10
PO Box 34, Upland, IN 46989 (Karen)	
Randal P. Ellington	2011-12
PO Box 335, Shelbyville, IN 46176	
Harold D. Black	2012-13
1408 Swinney Ave., Ft. Wayne, IN 46802 (Barbara)	
Tony S. Peterson (61)	2013-14
16065 E. 126 th St., Fishers, IN 46037 (Monica)	
Adam E. Jackson, (32)	2014-15
1700 E. Ann St., Muncie, IN 47303	
Steven A. Arlington, (28).....	2015-16
807 S. Peral St. Knox, IN 46534 (Rebecca)	
Charles P. King, (42)	2016-17
P. O. Box 1273, Bedford, IN 47421 (Janel)	
David Cincoski (12).....	2017-18
114 South15th Street, Chesterton, IN 46304	
Stephen P. Kroman, (14).....	2018-19
363 Redding Rd., Seymour, IN 47474 (Margaret)	
David L. Miller, (1).....	2019-20
404 North Mitchner Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46219-5116 (Donna)	
Danny Patterson (4)	2020-21
3702 Temberton Way, Fort Wayne, IN 46815-6553	



**Sir Knight, Randal P. Ellington, GPE
Right Eminent Grand Commander-Elect
Lady Dee
Invite you to attend the
170th Annual Conclave of
Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana**

**Held at the Horizon Convention Center
on
April 27, 2024**

Biography of Sir Knight Randal Ellington, GPE

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 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 LtoR) 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, GSwB, SK Jeffery Prairie, GS

(Back Row LtoR): SK Tony Peterson, KCT, KTCH, GM, SK Mitchel Rohrbaugh, AtoGC, SK Bruce Scott, DBC, SK John Freeland, AtoVEDGC, SK Matthew McLaughlin, AtoGc, SK Patrick Briney, DBC SK Dan Patterson, GPE, DBC SK Ron Ross, DBC, SK Rockey Myers, DBC, SK Nathan Ratterman, DBC

Randal P. Ellington, GPE (2).....Right Eminent Grand Commander (Dee) 5531 S. 800 W. Edinburgh, IN 46124 Phone (317) 364-3022 E-Mail: rpellington@gmail.com

Randy J. Darling (2)Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander (Penny) 612 Miller Ave., Shelbyville, IN 46176 Phone (317) 642-6705 E-mail: randyjdarling@gmail.com

Joseph L. Sparks (25).....Grand Generalissimo (Tracy) 564 Gettysburg, Coatesville, IN 46121 Phone (765) 376-2734 E-mail: joseph.sparks86@gmail.com

Dominic Hamblin (4).....Grand Captain General 9536 Acacia Psg., Fort Wayne, IN 46835-9102 Phone (260) 452-8704 E-Mail: dominicfaam@gmail.com

Jonathan M. McCracken (42)Grand Junior Warden
(Rebecca) 142 Bono Rd, Orleans, IN 47452-7213 Phone (812) 849-0442
E-mail: jmccracken@bedfordmachine.com

Datan Reed (4).....Grand Standard Bearer
(Teresa) 4219 S 450 W, Claypool, IN 46510 Phone (574) 377-1236; E-Mail: dathanreed@hotmail.com

Robert J. Frazer, KCT, PGC (8)Grand Treasurer
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E-Mail: bohnancyfrazer@aol.com

Edward E. Fodrea KCT, PGC (4) Grand Recorder
(Christine) 11128 Hickory Tree, Rd, Fort Wayne, IN 46845 Phone (260) 417-9946
E-Mail: hfa.phd1@gmail.com

Barry A. Clouser (36)Grand Prelate
(Melissa) 3152 E 100 N, Windfall, IN 4607 Phone (765) 432-6367 E-Mail: barry.clouser@netzero.com

Scott A. Sacek (28)Grand Standard Bearer
10598 Hanley St., Crown Point, IN 46307 Phone (219) 670-2964 E-Mail: ssacek.p.m.613@gmail.com

Douglas Patmore (15).....Grand Sword Bearer
(Shelly) 1592 E County Road 350 N, Rockport, IN 47635-8905 Phone (812) 393-9975
E-Mail: coroner.patmore@gmail.com

Mark A. Elder (39).....Grand Warder
(Kelly) 10618 Kensington Ln, Fortville, IN 46040 Phone (317) 850-7132 E-Mail; mark.elder66@gmail.com

Jeffery W. Prairie (2)Grand Sentinel
(Virginia) 71 W. State Rd 252 Franklin, IN 46131 Phone (317) 341-1691 E-Mail: jeffprairie@centurylink.com

***Proceedings off the
One Hundred Sixty-Ninth Annual Conclave
of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana***

The 169th Annual Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Indiana, was held at Indianapolis, IN at the Marriott located at 21st and Shadeland Ave.

On Saturday morning, the Grand Conclave was opened by Sir Knights of Raper Commandery #1 and Greenfield Commandery #39. Lines were then formed and the Right Eminent Grand Commander Whisner was received and introduced, he then introduced his officers as listed below:

V. E. Deputy Grand Commander	Randal Ellington, GPE
Grand Generalissimo	Randy Darling
Grand Captain General	Joseph Sparks
Grand Senior Warden	Dominic Hamblin
Grand Junior Warden	Jonathan McCracken
Grand Prelate	Archie Smallwood
Grand Treasurer	Bobby J. Frazer, KCT, PGC
Grand Recorder	Edward Fodrea, KCT, PGC
Grand Standard Bearer	Dathan Reed
Grand Sword Bearer	Scott Sacek
Grand Warder	Doug Patmore
Grand Sentinel	Mark Elder
Grand Marshal	Tony Peterson, KCT, KTCH
Grand Organist	Christopher Gamblin

Distinguished Guests

Sir Knight & Companion, Dennis Schraeder, Sr, Most Excellent Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons of Indiana, and his Officers

Sir Knight & Companion James R. Catania, Most Illustrious Grand Master, Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Indiana, and his Officers

Sir Knight Martin Trent, KCT East Central Department Commander

Sir Knight Duane L. Vaught MEPGM, PGC, GM

Sir Knight and Worshipful Brother Richard Lentz, Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons.

After the introductions of Distinguished Guests were complete, Sir Knight Whisner 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 169th 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 Raper Commandery #1 and Greenfield Commandery #39 we welcome you to the 2022-2023 Session of the Grand Commandery. We hope your Conclave will be both productive and enjoyable. If there is anything we can do for you during this Conclave, please let us know. Fraternaly 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 169th. Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery at the Marriott Hotel in Indianapolis. We want to extend our sincerest appreciation to the Officers and Members of Raper Commandery #1 and Greenfield Commandery #39 for the support they have extended to the Right Eminent Grand Commander Sir Knight Phillip D. Whisner and his Lady Connie 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, Randal P. Ellington, GPE, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander.

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 169th. Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery at the Marriott Hotel in Indianapolis. We want to extend our sincerest appreciation to the Officers and Members of Raper Commandery #1 and Greenfield Commandery #39 for the support they have extended to the Right Eminent Grand Commander Sir Knight Phillip D. Whisner and his Lady Connie 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, Randal P. Ellington, GPE, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander.

Following the Welcoming Address Sir Knight Phillip Whisner, REGC then set the Grand Commandery at Recess for the purpose of allowing Guests into the Asylum.

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

Welcome

I would like to welcome all who are attending the 169th Annual Grand Conclave of Knights Templar in the State of Indiana. I appreciate all Sir Knights from across the state who have made the time to be in attendance here today. I also appreciate those visiting Sir Knights from other jurisdictions and representatives of Grand Encampment who traveled to Indiana to be with us today. I also welcome our other Distinguished Guests of appendant bodies who are here with us today, and appreciate the support that you have shown to Commandery of Indiana throughout the year.

The Journey Begins

On April 29th, 2022, the Sir Knights of Indiana elected me as Grand Commander. I cannot put into words what a humbling honor it was – and continues to be – to know that you had the confidence in me to lead Knights Templar in Indiana. I started the year with three primary goals:

Encourage more involvement in all Commanderies by asking members to try to learn parts, put on degrees, and adding activities other than just business meetings and degree work.

Visit every Commandery in the state at least once

Serve the Sir Knights across the state.

I will address the status of each of these goals in my conclusion.

Key Events

Each year there are several key events that are planned under the leadership of the Grand Commander. Those events include the Summer Meeting, Summer Picnic, Christmas Party, Winter Meeting, Newby-Avery-Vaught banquet, and the Easter Trip.

Notice I did not say “planned by” the Grand Commander. It takes a great support team to make these events successful. I am so appreciative of all those who helped with each of these events, and hope that those of you who attended these events had a positive and enjoyable experience.

Summer Meeting

The Summer Meeting was held in conjunction with the annual Crypt Rededication with Grand Council in New Albany. Thank you to all Sir Knights who helped formed the honor lines for the Rededication, and to those who stayed for the Summer Meeting. It was well attended, and good information was shared. Afterwards many Sir Knights and ladies enjoyed the river boat cruise and lunch.

Summer Picnic

Approximately 60 Grand Commandery officers, Deputy Battalion Commanders, Past Grand Commanders, and their families gathered at Ft. Benjamin Harrison State Park for an afternoon devoted to fun and camaraderie (and of course, food). A cornhole tournament was held with Bob Frazier, PGC and GT the winner, and Lady Debbie Hooten won the most games of Bingo. The weather was great, and the fellowship was outstanding. Thank you to all who came and to all who helped!

Christmas Party

The annual Grand Commandery Christmas party was held at the Crawfordsville Masonic Temple in early December. Nearly 50 officers, DBCs, and PGCs enjoyed great food and an intense “Dirty Santa” gift exchange. The decorative trees at the Lodge helped enhanced the Christmas spirit, which concluded with the reading of the Christmas story from the gospel of Luke and the singing of “Silent Night”. Many officers and ladies helped set up and clean up, which was very much appreciated.

Winter Meeting

The Winter Meeting was held on January 21st at The Seasons Lodge in Nashville, IN. This year the special meetings for Jurisprudence and Finance were held in the morning, and the general Winter Meeting open to all Sir Knights was held in the afternoon. This was done to avoid a large amount of “downtime” for any Sir Knights who wanted to

attend the Winter Meeting and also attend the Newby-Avery-Vaught dinner that night. The meeting was well attended and moved quickly while still providing good information to the Sir Knights who were present.

Newby-Avery-Vaught Banquet

The NAV banquet was held after the Winter Meeting on January 21 st . Once again, the banquet was open to all Sir Knights. There were 84 reservations for the banquet, with only a couple of those unable to attend due to illness. Those who attended enjoyed a delicious meal, and the recognition of the Newby-Avery-Vaught Fellows and Chairs. Over \$6,500 was raised for the Grand Commandery general fund from the banquet. Past Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Duane Vaught, presented a check for \$39,099 to Grand Commandery that were the proceeds from the Triennial held in Indianapolis during his year as Grand Master.

While we had great help at each event, I want to give special thanks to those who helped make this banquet possible and who helped in cleaning up. Unfortunately, Lady Connie was experiencing health issues during this time, but many people stepped up to help. At the end of the banquet, I asked for assistance in taking down decorations and cleaning up, and was astonished at how many pitched in to help. We all witnessed a great example of “servant leadership” that night with our own Grand Master of Masons of Indiana, Richard Lentz, and his lady Donna staying to help. Thank you, Grand Master, Donna, and everyone else who helped us clean up in record time!

Commandery Worship Together Sunday

Since we are a Christian organization, I wanted to give our Sir Knights and families an opportunity to worship together one Sunday. We had a small group who met at Southport United Methodist Church on January 22 nd due to the weather, but those in attendance enjoyed the fellowship in Christ that being together in worship brings. Thank you to all those who did brave the weather and came to join Lady Connie and me.

Easter Trip

At the time that I am writing this, the Easter trip is still a few weeks away. I cannot make specific comments regarding the trip itself, but I am grateful that we are going to be able to spend time with the Sir Knights, ladies, and guests who have committed to going. For those of you who have never been on an Easter trip with Grand Commandery, I encourage you to consider going in the future. The experiences, the fellowship, and the joy of worshipping together on Easter morning on the steps of the George Washington Masonic Memorial is priceless. You will make friendships on this trip that last for years.

Travels

It has been my privilege to travel throughout the state and to other jurisdictions representing Indiana as your Grand Commander. A recap of those travels are listed below.

May 7, 2022 One Day class at Prather Commandery #62

May 14, 2022 50-Year Award of Gold, Grant County Commandery #21

May 16, 2022 Grand Lodge Banquet at Indianapolis Hilton

May 17, 2022 Annual Communication – Grand Lodge of Indiana

May 17, 2022 Grand Lodge Banquet at Scottish Rite Cathedral

May 19 – 21, 2022 Annual Conclave of Grand Commandery of West Virginia
June 2-4, 2022 Council of Deliberation, Evansville
June 10, 2022 Order of Eastern Star opening
June 11, 2022 AMD Council Ingathering at Prather
June 24, 2022 Job's Daughters Formal Opening – Huntington
June 25, 2022 Job's Daughters Grand Bethel and Grand Council Installation
July 7, 2022 Honor Guard for PGC, PECDC Larry Brown
July 8, 2022 Funeral for PGC, PECDC Larry Brown
July 9, 2022 DeMolay Grand Session Banquet and Installation
July 15, 2022 Grand Commandery/Grand Council Golf Outing, New Albany
July 16, 2022 Grand Council Crypt Rededication – New Albany, Grand Commandery Summer Meeting & Riverboat Cruise
July 20, 2022 Crawfordsville #25/Greencastle #11 Reception @ Crawfordsville
July 29-30, 2022 Annual Conclave – Illinois
August 1, 2022 Prather #62 Reception
Aug 2-6, 2022 Sovereign York Rite College/Order of Purple Cross, Kansas City
August 10, 2022 Battalion #8 Reception at Vincennes
August 15, 2022 Valparaiso #28/EH Gary #57 Inspection at Valparaiso
August 19-20 Annual Conclave – Michigan
August 27, 2022 Grand Commandery Summer Picnic – Ft Harrison State Park
September 6, 2022 Grant County #21 Inspection
September 8, 2022 Wm Bray #65.HE Lackey #67 Inspection at Wm Bray
September 10, 2022 Levant Preceptory Conferral of OT Degree, Birdsell Castle, Charlestown
September 11, 2022 Compass Park Festival – cancelled due to weather
September 17, 2022 Reception for Grand Commander, Raper #1 & Greenfield #39 at Greenfield (AM)
September 17, 2022 Grand Master's Reception – Auburn
September 18-19, 2022 Annual Conclave – Kentucky
September 19, 2022 Green County #68 & Vincennes #20 Inspection at Vincennes
September 20, 2022 LaValette #15 & Wright #64 Inspection at LaValette
September 22, 2022 Frankfort #29 Reception
September 26, 2022 Raper #1/Baldwin #2 Reception, Baldwin
September 28-30, 2022 Social Order of Beauceant Supreme Assembly, Atlanta GA
October 1, 2022 Terre Haute #16 Inspection
October 1, 2022 Grand Council Ish Sodi Dinner, Sahara Grotto
October 4, 2022 Elkhart #31 Inspection
October 6-8, 2022 Annual Conclave – Ohio
October 12, 2022 New Albany #5/Columbus #14 Inspection at Columbus
October 13, 2022 Wm Bray #65 Reception
October 15, 2022 Apollo #19 & Angola #45 Inspection & Reception @Angola
October 18, 2022 Grant County #21 Reception
October 22, 2022 Wm Bray #65 Special Reception for Grand Commander
October 26, 2022 H.E. Lackey #67 Reception
October 31, 2022 Richmond #8 Reception
November 1, 2022 EH Gary #57 Stated Meeting
November 2, 2022 Speedway DeMolay – Stated Meeting
November 3, 2022 Greenfield #39 Inspection
November 5, 2022 Bedford #42/Bloomington #63 Inspection & Reception, Bedford
November 7, 2022 Prather #62 Inspection

November 9, 2022 Huntington #35/Ft Wayne #4 Reception at Huntington
 November 11, 2022 Veteran's Day program at Compass Park
 November 12, 2022 New Albany #5/Columbus #14 Reception at Columbus
 November 14, 2022 Richmond #8 Inspection
 November 16, 2022 Raper #1/Baldwin #2 Inspection at Raper
 November 18, 2022 Crawfordsville #25/Greencastle #11 Inspection at Crawfordsville
 November 19, 2022 Frankfort #29 Inspection
 November 21, 2022 Anderson #32/Noblesville #61/Kokomo #36 Inspection @ Anderson
 November 22, 2022 Elkhart #31
 November 29, 2022 LaPorte #12 Inspection & Reception
 December 3, 2022 Grand Commandery Christmas Part
 January 14, 2023 Founder's Day at Scottish Rite Cathedral
 January 21, 2023 Winter Meeting/Newby-Avery-Vaught Banquet, Nashville, IN
 January 22, 2023 Commandery Worship Together Sunday, Southport United, Methodist Church
 January 28, 2023 Monarch's Ball – Sahara Grotto
 February 4, 2023 Inspection at Cincinnati (Ohio) Commandery #3
 February 6, 2023 Flag presentation at Keystone Masonic Lodge
 February 18, 2023 Levant Preceptory Conferral of OT, Champaign, IL
 February 25, 2023 Lawrence V. Kaminsky UD Stated Meeting – Columbus
 March 11, 2023 East Central Department Meeting, Ft. Wayne
 March 19 – 22, 2023 Annual Conclave – Tennessee
 March 31 – April 1, 2023 Annual Conclave, Grand Chapter RAM, Nashville, IN
 April 5, 2023 Easter trip & Easter Sunrise Service

In addition to these dates, I attended nearly all the Stated Meetings for Indianapolis York Rite and Greenfield York Rite, participated in degree work at both York Rites multiple times throughout the year, and attended meetings at Isley York Rite College, St. Andrew Tabernacle, Holy Royal Arch Knights Templar Priests, Robert A. Woods Priory Knight York Cross of Honor, Tall Cedars of Lebanon, Sahara Grotto, Indianapolis Preceptory #4 Yeoman of York, High Twelve #722, St. Bernard de Clairvaux Council Allied Masonic Degrees, and Wayne Guthrie Lodge #753. I was not able to make all meetings of each of those bodies due to Commandery commitments, but tried to represent Commandery of Indiana well at the meetings that I was able to attend.

Philanthropies

The two main philanthropies for Knights Templar are the Knights Templar Eye Foundation and the Holy Land Pilgrimage fund. Both were well supported by the Sir Knights of Indiana. I often spoke at receptions and inspections about the life membership for KTEF and challenged each Commandery to have 100% participation. Many of the Commanderies rose to that challenge, and I thank those of you who did. The gift of sight is one that we often take for granted. If your Commandery does not have 100% participation in the life membership for KTEF, I encourage you to consider it. If you do have a life membership, you can continue to contribute to KTEF. There is no such thing as "too much money" when it comes to medical research! Indiana sent four ministers to the Holy Land this year. I am proud of the Sir Knights and Commanderies that contributed to the Holy Land pilgrimage fund that made this possible. Funds were raised at the annual Golf Outing held in New Albany in July, by selling the Grand Commander's challenge coins (which sold out – thank you!), and by Commanderies making contributions to the fund. Even the Social Order of the Beauceant, the ladies' organization that supports Knights Templar, made a contribution to this fund, and it was greatly appreciated.

Appreciation

I hesitate in writing this section, as I am sure I will leave someone out. However, there are several people who immediately come to mind that I would like to acknowledge and thank. Grand Officers of Indiana: You traveled, you were involved, and you supported Commanderies in your Battalions and across the state. Thank you, Sir Knights, for your dedication and commitment to our Order. Our future is in good hands!

George Ingles, Jr.: Thank you for your help when I first started my Commandery journey at Raper #1. You helped me with the degrees and helped me learn from the beginning.

Andy Jackson, PGC: You gave me an opportunity to serve as a Deputy Battalion Commander. It was a great experience and helped lead me to this great journey that I am about to complete.

Doc Stoner and David Willoughby: You were my first two Battalion Commanders. You taught me, you helped me learn from my mistakes, and you always encouraged me.

Mike Ritter and Larry Brown (RIP): You encouraged me greatly to consider taking this journey, and I appreciate all of your honesty in what to expect along the way.

Paul Cole (RIP): Paul's passion and positivity about Commandery, and his focus on making the organization better, inspired me greatly. He was a good Sir Knight and Grand Commander, and most importantly, a great man and great friend.

Don Olvey: You had the confidence in me to appoint me as a Grand Officer in the west, which was the start of my path to Grand Commander. Thank you for that confidence!

Mike Robbins: You continued to support me even during the unfortunate situation that arose during your year. Thank you appointing me back into line to fill a resignation. Your confidence in me was, and is, greatly appreciated.

Duane Vaught, Steve Barton, Ed Fodrea: I've had numerous conversations with each of you this past year about challenges, situations, and just general happenings. You have given me great guidance without telling me what to do, which means a lot to me.

Tony and Monica Peterson: You have both helped make this year easier in so many ways. Thank you for handling the Easter trip, for your assistance with decorations and planning, and for being great friends.

Bill Short: You have given so much time to Commandery this year, especially in traveling with me throughout the state. Thank you for your dedication and commitment, and for being my sounding board during our time spent together in the car.

Sir Knights of Indiana: There are no words to express my gratitude for allowing me to serve you as Grand Commander this year, for your warm welcomes for both me and Lady Connie during your Receptions and Inspections, and most importantly, for your love for the fraternity. Keep your love and passion strong and let's continue to build Knights Templar in Indiana!

My family: My daughters, sons-in-law, and grandchildren were often the ones helping “behind the scenes”. Thank you for all your love and encouragement for the past several years. Your support has meant so much to me, and I love you all.

My final thank you goes to my wife, Lady Connie, who is the cause of me being here. Her desire to be in the Social Order of Beauceant led me to the position I am in today, so I can put all the blame on her for being here. She has been my rock, my steady influence, and my sounding board as I bounced a lot of ideas off her. She has helped me learn more about how to deal with people better, and I can never repay her or thank her enough. For good or for bad, she has to claim responsibility for the person I have become.

Observations

As I have traveled the state and visited Commanderies, I have seen improvements in the level of involvement in many Commanderies. I have also seen great passion for the fraternity and the willingness to share that passion with others. Always remember that we need to give our members a reason to be a Sir Knight, and it goes beyond just having business meetings and putting on degree work. Be social, be active in your Blue Lodge and community, and most importantly, be welcoming.

Recommendations

I am about to leave the office of Grand Commander, but I would like to make recommendations to those who are coming behind me. Those recommendations include:

- 1) Continue supporting our youth groups, and consider increasing the annual donation that Grand Commandery makes to DeMolay, Job’s Daughters, and Rainbow. The members of these groups are our future.
- 2) Promote and continue to support Lawrence V. Kaminsky UD. The presentations given at these meetings are a way for our members to continue to learn and grow. I commend the officers and members of LVK for working on making these presentations readily available for all Sir Knights to use in gaining more knowledge about our fraternity.
- 3) The R. Frank Williams award should be continued.
- 4) Continue building the Indiana Templar Academies and encourage attendance by all tenured and new Sir Knights. Future ITAs could focus on each degree to help all Sir Knights become more proficient in each.
- 5) Continue to leave the Newby-Avery-Vaught banquet open to all Sir Knights. The Fellows of NAV are important, but it is also important that those Sir Knights who perhaps are unable to financially support NAV with a Fellow are allowed the opportunity to participate in this event.
- 6) Pick a degree for Inspections that all Commanderies will use. We have faced challenges with consistency in scoring for Inspections due to the distinctions of each degree. Using only one will allow the Battalion Commanders and Deputy Battalion Commanders to be trained on how to score that specific degree.
- 7) Continue the Ritual Competition and Drill Competition. While participation is not what we would like to see, we need to encourage Sir Knights and Commanderies to take part in both.
- 8) Continue the Holy Land challenge coin fundraiser and continue to promote sending ministers across the state.

Conclusion

I started the year with the goals mentioned at the start of this document. I have seen an increase in the involvement and level of enthusiasm in Commanderies across the state. Sir Knights are wanting and willing to learn new parts and become more active in their Commandery. We “old” members must be willing to let newer ones do these parts, and we need to encourage and support them.

I visited most of the Commanderies in the state, either for an inspection, reception, or stated meeting. I did miss a few, and I apologize to those Commanderies that I was unable to visit. I found during this past year just how quickly time goes and how challenging it can be to try to fit everything in.

Whether I met the goal of serving you, the Sir Knights of Indiana, is something that only you can answer. There is no way for this to be measured by me. I only hope that you feel that I did indeed meet this goal.

I set off on this journey many years ago that has only been possible with a great deal of support from many people. It is hard to believe that the year has passed so quickly and it is now time to turn the leadership of Knights Templar of Indiana over to the next Grand Commander and his officers. I have every confidence that they will continue to promote and support our Commanderies during the upcoming year. I look forward to watching the continued growth and excitement for Commandery in the state of Indiana.

Phil Whisner
Grand Commander
2022-2023

2022-2023 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Eye Foundation Report

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

At the beginning of his term our Grand Commander Sir Knight Phillip Whisner, set a goal of getting to 100% “Life Sponsors” for all commanderies. That goal has not been met. However we currently have two (2)

Commanderies that have 100% Life Sponsors:

Raper Commandery #1 – 115.91%

Elbert H. Gary Commandery #57 – 110.14%

The following Commanderies have greater than 90% of the membership as “Life Sponsors”:

Angola Commandery #45 – 98.41%

Greencastle Commandery #11 – 96.88%

William G. Bray Commandery #65 – 95.71%

As of March 15, 2023, the Ladies of the Eastern Star have donated \$1,255.00 to the Knight’s Templar Eye Foundation. We also received a donation from “American Patriot Lodge #750 F & A Mason” in the amount of \$50.00. The Grand Commandery Assessment was \$1,539.00. Total Donations from the Sir Knights was this

past year at this time we had donated \$32,531.12. The total donations come to \$35,375.12. For information about the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, I direct your attention to the following link KTEF.ORG There you learn about the History, Partnerships and how to make donation. 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

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 March 15, 2023, we have the following activity for the Templar Year:

- 18 – New Topline Signers
- 17 – New Cords Handed out
 - 6 – White
 - 5 – Silver
 - 4 – Gold
 - 1 – Red
 - 1 – Red/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

Grand Commandery Masonic Youth Report Final Report 2022/2023

To Sir Knight Philip D. Whisner, Right Eminent Grand Commander, Sir Knights and 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 their projects they have prepared for during their first half of the 2023 Calendar year.

Jobs Daughters of Indiana held their 2021/2022 Grand Session was held at Huntington University on June 23rd through June 26th with Rachel G., Grand Bethel Honored Queen - Bethel #67, Ms. Kendle R., Miss Indiana Job's Daughter 2021-2022, Bethel #22 and Zoey C., Jr. Miss Indiana Job's Daughter 2021-2022, Bethel #2. Sir

Knight Phillip Whisner, REGC and Past Grand Associate Bethel Guardian was in attendance for their Session. Miss Annabelle H. of Bethel #110 was crowned Miss Indiana Job's Daughter, Miss Bernie S. of Bethel #68 was crowned Jr. Miss Indiana Job's Daughter and Miss Emily P. of Bethel #8 was crowned Grand Bethel Honor Queen. Their 2022/2023 Grand Sessions will be held June 22nd through June 25th at The Seasons,

Indiana DeMolay held their 2021/2022 State Conclave at Huntington University on July 7th through 10th with the Installation of Brother Aaron P., State Master Councilor of Steel City Chapter Order of DeMolay in Highland, IN who was Installed as the State Master Councilor for 2022/2023. Sir Knight Phillip Whisner, REGC and Lady Connie along with Sir Knight Randal P. Ellington, VEDGC were in attendance for the dinner and Installation of Officers. They are planning on having their 2022/2023 Conclave at Wabash College with a date TBD.

The International Rainbow for Girls in Indiana held their 2021/2022 Grand Assembly on July 7th through the 9th at The Seasons in Nashville, IN with Grand Worthy Advisor Hannah M. presiding. At that time they held their Elections of Officers for their 2022-2023 State Officers with Ms. Destiny S. being Elected as Grand Worthy Advisor for 2022/2023. Sir Knight Randal P. Ellington, VEDGC and a several Sir Knights forming an Honor Guard for the reception of the Grand Worthy Advisor. Their 2022/2023 Grand Sessions will be held July 6th through the 8th at The Seasons.

The Adult Leadership of Indiana DeMolay, Job's Daughters and Rainbow for Girls all need to be Commended for their continued dedication and perseverance by the way they have kept all 3 of our youth groups active, intact and keeping them moving forward. Thank you all for being there for the Youth of Our State!

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, these Young Adults are our direct Life Line!!!

Respectfully Submitted in Christian Masonry,

Randal P. Ellington, GPE, VEDGC – Chairman

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 2022-2023, in the areas of recruitment, expansion, development, and invigoration through the modes of ritual, education, fellowship, and community engagement. All of 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
- Music and other accoutrements accompanying the ritual to enhance the experience
- Mentorship for Commanders, Officers, and new members
- Being an active component in local blue lodges
- Assign ritual parts

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 – whichever kind it may be – and wear it with pride as a SK.
- Experienced leaders who continue to work in quarries, such as R.E. SK and M.W. Bro. George Ingles, in Gas City, to help invigorate its officers and members. Some guys just need a little spark and a helping hand from our mentors and leaders, in order to start something great.
- In-house degree work (RAM, CM, KT) ...build it, and they will come.
- Visits from Grand bodies officers – RAM, CM, KT – we want to show you how good we’re doing, and occasionally, need some help too. The candidates love that in the York Rite, the “big wigs” are right there at their degrees.
- Regional York Rite bodies working together when ritual teams get tough, and awarding Honorary Memberships to members of other York Rite’s for their assistance.
- KT Flag presentations | Visual presentations | Community involvement and displays

An additional area we’ve found has been also successful, borrowing form our Companions in the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons, is their co-op program, to assist the Councils in purchasing new regalia and paraphernalia. No new member in the 21st century wants to see old, ratty, coffee-stained and moth-ball clothes and aprons. However, historical artifacts and displays (jewels, rings, ledges, swords, photographs, and the like) encourage and buoy-up new Sir Knights.

Continuing the Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery #UD, KT has provided Sir Knights an outlet for research and education throughout the state. The Grand Encampment’s vote to allow the KT Aprons, and subsequently our own Grand Commandery’s vote to do the same, has brought back an era of mystique and esoteric aspect to our Commandery’s which has enlivened the Orders ties to not only our historical roots but also recalls our important oaths we’ve taken during the V Libations.

The committee also recognizes the research and ideas put forth by a previous Membership Committee, Chaired by SK Brian Lewis, PC a few years ago. The data utilized is a direct correlation to our future if we are to transition from a surviving organization to a thriving one.

The current membership data, as provided by the Grand Recorder’s office, states where we stand in 2023 for Commandery in our jurisdiction.

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

In Hoc Signo Vincens.

Sincerely & fraternally,
 Timothy R. Brinkmeyer, PC
 Chairman – Membership Committee
 Grand Commandery of Indiana, K.T.

Membership Committee Members:

Steven Bates (#21)

Don Laudeman, DBC (#31)

Graig Huber (#62)

Mark Baker (#65)

Mike Bailey (#5)

Michael Crum (#14)

Larry Sist (#20)

Bill Payton (#11)

Scott Sacek, GSwB, BC - #1

Dominic Hamblin, GSW, BC - #2

Dathan Reed, GStB, BC - #3

Joseph Sparks, GCG, BC - #4

Randy Darling, GGen, BC - #5

Mark Elder, GSent, BC - #6

Jonathan McCracken, GJW, BC - #7

Doug Patmore, GWard, BC - #8

Masonic Home Nativity Scene

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

The Nativity Scene at the Indiana Masonic Home at Compass Park was put up on November 19th by the Franklin DeMolay chapter, with the assistance of the Grand Commandery. The Nativity Scene was taken down in January.

Courteously,

Joseph Sparks, GCG – Chairman

Randal Ellington, VEDGC, GPE

Dominic Hamblin, GSW

Patriotic Committee

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

Below are the Patriotic Activities that have been reported for the year. As a note there have not been any additional submittals since the Winter Meeting.

Date	Commandery	Activity	Location
March 15, 2022	Bedford	Flag Presentation	Bedford Lodge #14
May 26, 2022	Baldwin	Present and fold the Flag	Shelby County Past Masters and Wardens Memorial Service at Sugar Creek Lodge #279
May 30, 2022	Bedford New Albany	Parade	New Albany Memorial Day Parade
June 25, 2022	Baldwin	Present Flag	Installation of Officers for Naamah Chapter 9, Order of Eastern Star
June 11, 2022	Richmond	Flag Presentation	Earlham Cemetery
July 4, 2022	Bloomington	Flag Raising	Monroe Lodge in Bloomington
October 29, 2022	Bedford and	Flag Presentation	Bedford Masonic Lodge Outdoor

	New Albany		Degree
August 6,2022	Bedford and New Albany	Flag Presentation	Salem Lodge All Day Degree
November 11, 2022	Multiple	Color Guard	Veterans Day Celebration at Compass Park
November 12, 2022	New Albany	Flag Presentation	George Rogers Clark Scottish Rite Veterans Day Dinner

Respectfully Submitted

Mark A. Elder
Grand Sentinel

Ritual Competition

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

The second annual ritual competition was held at 168th conclave of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana. Categories for the competition consisted of the Junior Wardens address, the Prelate’s address, the sword presentation and the Ode to the Skull.

There were no competitors for the Prelate’s address. Jan Henline was the only competitor for The Junior Wardens address. There were three competitors for the sword presentation with Chris Steel being the winner. There were also three competitors for the Ode to the Skull with the winner being Graig Huber.

The third annual Ritual Competition is scheduled to be held at the 169th conclave. We will continue to offer, The Junior Warden’s address, The Prelate’s address, sword presentation and the Ode to the Skull. We will also be adding the Flag Presentation a portion of the Warder’s part.

Courteously,

Joseph Sparks, GCG – Chairman
Ed Fodrea, PGC, KCT, GR
Mike Robbins, PGC, KCT

Ritual and Tactics

To Sir Knight Phillip Whisner, Right Eminent Grand Commander, Officers of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana, Sir Knights All:

There have been no updates or recommendations at this time.

Respectfully Submitted in Christian Masonry,

Sir Knight Randal Ellington, GPE, VEDGC – Chairman
Sir Knight Randy Darling, GG
Sir Knight Scott Sacek, GSB
Sir Knight William Short, PC #1 Aide to REGC

Templar Crusader

HHSB checking account opened 08/04/2022 in Crawfordsville, IN

08/04/2023 Beginning Balance - \$2,014.29
08/04/2023 Check order – \$20.53, Balance \$1,993.76
01/04/2023 Deposit - \$450.00 for Terre Haute donation from sir knights, Raper commandery inside cover, Raper commandery ½ page ad and Richmond commandery full page ad, Balance \$2,443.76
01/27/2023 Deposit - \$300.00 for Frankfort Commandery full page ad, Grant County full page ad and Greenfield full page ad, Balance \$2,743.76
03/12/2023 Currently have two checks to deposit totaling \$150.00 for Crawfordsville full page ad and S.O.O.B ½ page ad.
At the time of this report I am still awaiting payments from; Masonic & Estate jewelry ½ page ad \$50.00, Baldwin Commandery back cover \$250.00, Shelby County York Rite ½ page ad \$50.00, Baldwin Commandery full page ad \$100.00, Shelby County York Rite full page ad \$100.00, Masonic Beehive full page ad \$100.00 and New London Regalia full page ad \$100.00. I have not yet received a bill for printing of magazine.

Courteously,
Joseph Sparks, GCG

Templar Educational Foundation

To Sir Knight Phillip Whisner, Right Eminent Grand Commander, Officers of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana, Sir Knights All:

There have been 3 applications received and reviewed and reviewed with and the Candidates will be contacted with the results of the Committee.

The Application for the Educational Scholarship has been updated and is available on the website and at this time there have been no submissions filed for scholarships at this time.

GRAND COMMANDERY OF INDIANA KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATION FOR INDIANA ACCREDITED COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Note: Each question must be answered in full, and each request must be complied with a current photo. Also needed to be included with the application are High School or College transcripts and statement of intent. A statement of current year FAFSA Student Aid Report also must accompany each application. Failure to fill out the application properly and to comply with requested information, will result in the application being denied.

SECTION 1: Personal

NAME: _____
 LAST FIRST MIDDLE

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____

Telephone Number: (_____) _____

Cell Phone Number: (_____) _____

SECTION 2: FAMILY

Father's Name: _____

Occupation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____

Telephone Number (_____) _____

Mother's Name: _____

Occupation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____

Telephone Number (_____) _____

Number of brothers or sisters in household (excluding applicant) _____

SECTION 3: COLLEGE

What year of College will you enter next year:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Where? _____

(Circle one of the Above)

All Applications must have a college Transcripts or Grades report from High School for 1st year College students!

College/University: _____

Major: _____ Minor: _____

Accredited Hours (if other than 1st year _____

SECTION 4: FINANCES

College Expenses: _____

Tuition: _____ Books & Fees: _____

Room & Board: _____

Are you presently employed? (Y or N) _____

Employer: _____

From what source (and amount) do you expect to receive financial assistance?

Parents \$ _____ Loans \$ _____ Savings \$ _____

Self \$ _____ Scholarships \$ _____

Please list individual information about other scholarships you are receiving.

Have you ever been awarded a scholarship from the Knights Templar Scholarship? (Yes or No) _____

If yes, What year(s) _____

Is Your Father / Brother a Mason? _____

If yes Lodge Number(s) _____

Is Your Father / Brother a Knight Templar in Indiana? _____

If yes what Commandery Number(s) _____

SECTION 5: CIVIC

Are you an Active or Majority Member of DeMolay, Job's Daughter, Rainbow for Girls, are you a Mason / Knights Templar or belong to Eastern Star?

Chapter, Bethel or Assembly Name and Location: _____

Masonic Lodge Number(s) _____ Eastern Star Chapter Number(s) _____

Knights Templar Commandery # _____

Church affiliation Name and Location:

Memberships, offices and awards honors in church, civic & non-school activities:

SECTION 6: STATEMENT OF INTENT

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS IN SPACE BELOW

Please explain why you are proud to be an American:

Please explain why you chose the courses of study you indicate:

To the best of my knowledge the answers and information supplied in this application are true and accurate. I consent to the use of this photograph by the Scholarship Board.

Signature of applicant _____

Date: _____

Mail to:
Randal P. Ellington, VEDGC
PO Box 335
Shelbyville, IN 46176

Respectfully Submitted in Christian Masonry,

Sir Knight Randal Ellington, GPE, VEDGC – Chairman
Sir Knight James Dove, PGC, KCT
Sir Knight Robert Frazier, PGC, KCT, GT
Sir Knight Terry Kehrer, PGC, KCT

Templar Education

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

The Grand Commandery held a Battalion Commander and Deputy Battalion Commander meeting at Raper Commandery #1 in Indianapolis. We covered the updated Grand Commandery website, inspection paperwork, introductions and protocol. There were 24 participants in total, which included nine Grand Commandery Officers, three Past Grand Commanders, three Aids and 12 Deputy Battalion Commanders.

The Grand Commandery hosted three Indiana Templar Academy's. The topics that were covered were the Commandery Uniforms, addressing the Eminent Commander, Funeral Guards, the Prelates Escort and the posting of the guards. The Central Templar Academy was on February 28 th in the Greenfield Commandery Asylum, there were 14 members present. The North Templar Academy was held on February 11 th in the Angola Commandery Asylum which there was 30 members present. The South Templar Academy was held in the Wright Commandery Asylum on March 18 th 2023, there were 15 members present.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to Sir Knight John Freeland and Sir Knight Carson Smith for helping me make this year's Indiana Templar Academy so successful.

Fraternally & sincerely,
Randy J. Darling, GG Chair
Joseph Sparks, GCG

Templar Long Range Planning

To Sir Knight Philip D. Whisner, Right Eminent Grand Commander, Sir Knights and Officers of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana, Sir Knights All:

The Long Range Planning Committee has discussed several items that would benefit the Sir Knights of Indiana with some short term and long term goals and ideas.

1. The Indiana Grand Commandery website www.indianaknightstemplar.org is in need of revamping and brought up to speed with the needs of the Sir Knights of Indiana along with the Recorders and Officers of the Grand Commandery. Links to valuable information for membership, forms, social media, and other items are needed to make this more viable and visible from the Potential New Member to Seasoned Sir Knight who might visit it. This is being Addressed and is in the process.
2. The Use of Social Media including Facebook, YouTube, and the Website to drive more involvement from across the State by both Local Commanderies, Sir Knights and Grand Commandery Officers. Facebook is being used regularly but more avenues need to be looked into.
3. Be more visible as a Grand Commandery or Local Commandery/York Rite as a whole at Local and Regional events, whether it would be Masonic or Non Masonic in order to promote our Brand as Knights Templar Christian Masons and a part of the Masonic Family. Most Commandery's seem to be working well in their local communities and with their York Rites, but there is room for improvement to get our name out in the Community to be more visual.
4. Set Local and State Goals that are obtainable of reducing Demits and Suspensions to 3% or lower of our individual commandery and state membership as a whole. Working on a plan to help all Commandery's to achieve this goal!
5. Work with the Membership Committee to develop ideas for individual or commandery membership goals. There are plans for Membership for the 2032-2024 year.
6. Continue to evaluate the Ritual and Drill Competition's and continue to make them viable parts of our Grand Commandery Session. There have been Additions made to the 2022-2023 Ritual Tournament.
7. Evaluate the Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery of Research, U.D. and their contribution to the Sir Knights of Indiana. The New Officers appointed held 3 meetings and have had successful membership recruitment.
8. Create or utilize a platform in order to better keep in contact with the Sir Knights of Indiana and abroad either via email, website, MMS, SMS, constant contact or social media outlets. Grand Lodge is working on a Platform that all Masonic Organizations can use. Mail Chimp might be a good value to use to contact all Members via E-Mail, the Grand Recorder is looking into options.

Respectfully Submitted in Christian Masonry,

Randal P. Ellington, VEDGC, GPE, Chairman
Randy J. Darling, GG Joseph Sparks, GCG 1yr
Larry Williams, PGC, KCT Dominic Hamblin, GSW 2yr
Terry Kehrer, PGC 2yr Ed Fodrea, PGC, KCT, GR 3yr
Jon McCracken, GJW, 3yr

Templar Uniform

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

The Uniform Committee has been reviewing several issues arising from legislation proposed at the April 2022 Grand Conclave. Those issues pertaining to proposed recognitions by means of ribbon bars were returned to the committee for recommendations.

They are as follows:

Holy Land Pilgrimage Bar & Jewel (Awarded for pre-determined donation amounts)

ITA Bar (Optional bar can be worn in lieu of present decoration)

Past Commanders Association Bar (Optional bar that may be worn in lieu of PSA Jewel)

Bar Racks (Adopt the use of a multi bar holder that keeps bars aligned and promotes ease of placement on uniform)

Recommendations for these proposals will be forwarded to the Jurisprudence Committee upon completion of deliberation among the committee members.

I express my appreciation and esteem for the members of this committee for their patience, industry, and knowledgeable opinions.

Fraternally and respectfully,

William Short, PC, Chair
Randy Darling, GG
Joseph Sparks, GCG
Dominic Hamblin, GSW
Dathan Reed, GSB

Unfinished Business 2022-2023

To Sir Knight Phillip Whisner, Right Eminent Grand Commander, Officers of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana, Sir Knights All:

Since the Drill Team Cord Resolution did not pass it was however taken under advisement and was sent to the Uniform Committee and back to the Presentors.

Respectfully Submitted in Christian Masonry,

Sir Knight Randal Ellington, GPE, VEDGC – Chairman
Sir Knight Randy J. Darling, GG

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 fee 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

Budget 2023

RECEIPTS	2449	Accounting Number	Total	
				Budget \$12.50
Per Capita Dues - Indiana	2113		\$	26,412.50
Per Capita Dues - Grand Encampment	members		\$	22,329.00
Transfer from Life Membership Funds		5061.25	\$	4,769.00
K. T. Eye Foundation Assessment			\$	2,481.00
Knighting Fees			\$	1,280.00
Total Per Capita Assessments		5200	\$	57,271.50
Interest earned		5310	\$	-
Permanent Fund / Newby/Avery Donations		4050	\$	5,000.00
Transfer from Permanent Fund		5407	\$	20,000.00
DSA Payments		5409	\$	600.00
Grand Conclave Banquet Income		5459	\$	15,000.00
ITA		5422	\$	-
Miscellaneous		5490	\$	200.00
DeMolay Sword		4041	\$	-
		4040	\$	-
		5480	\$	-
Income Total			\$	96,071.50

DISBURSEMENTS

NON-DISCRETIONARY AND SPECIAL ACCOUNTS - 7300

Grand Encampment Per Capita			\$	22,329.00
K.T. Eye Foundation			\$	2,481.00
Grand Encampment Per-Capita Total		7310	\$	24,810.00
Refund of Per Capita		7315	\$	-
Triennial	7320		\$	2,000.00
Triennial Drill Team Travel		7321	\$	250.00
DISCRETIONARY	7400	17500	\$	-
Officers Expenses	7410		\$	-
Grand Commander		7411	\$	6,750.00
Grand Recorder		7412	\$	10,000.00
KT Supplement		7414	\$	250.00
GIG Expenses		7415	\$	1250.00
Grand Officers		7416	\$	6,750.00
Grand Commander's Contingency		7417	\$	1,000.00
web master		7418	\$	650.00
Awards 50 year		8140	\$	50.00

Postage			
Accounting (Audit) / Taxes		7510	\$ 1,500.00
Funeral Expenses		7524	\$ 250.00
Travel & Meeting expenses	7550		
Travel / Misc. Grand Conclave Expenses		7551	\$ 950.00
Grand Conclave		7559	\$ 10,000.00
Grand Conclave Banquet			\$ 15,000.00
Proceedings - Advanced		8171	\$ 600.00
Proceedings - Annual		8172	\$ 2,000.00
Drills/Ritual Competition Rental		7553	\$ 600.00
Competition Awards		7554	\$ 1,000.00
		7555	
BOND Insurance - Grand Recorder		7570	\$ 1,000.00
Checks		7580	\$ -
Operation Supplies	7601		
Rituals & Shipping		7620	\$ 600.00
Uniform		7625	\$ 500.00
PGC Jewels New & Repairs		7651	\$ 800.00
Jewels New & Repairs		7652	\$ -
Awards			
Newby/Avery Plaques / Pins		7555	\$ 450.00
Ribbons, Plaques, Trophies		7710	\$ 500.00
		7705	
Membership Development /Publicity Expense		7800	\$ 500.00
Youth Job's Daughters		7920	\$ 250.00
Youth Rainbow		7930	\$ 250.00
Youth DeMolay		7940	\$ 250.00
Youth DeMolay Sword		7941	\$ -
ITA Supplies		7855	\$ -
Grand Recorder Office Expenses	8100		
Office Supplies		8110	\$ 750.00
Telephone		8120	\$ 1,200.00
Automatic Calling Service		8121	\$ 25.00
Internet		8130	\$ 900.00
Outside Computer Services			
Web Host		8131	\$ 750.00
Computer Software		8135	\$ 750.00

	Computer Hardware	8136	\$	500.00
	Office Equip Repair / Replace	8137	\$	-
	Postage	8138	\$	300.00
	Shipping & Postage	8139	\$	150.00
	Office Printing & Copying	8170	\$	500.00
	Red Book	8175	\$	250.00
Misc.		9510		
	Expense Total		\$	96,085.00
	Surplus / (Deficit)		\$	(13.50)

Treasurer's Report

Balance Sheet

April 1, 2023

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

1000 · Grand Commandery Summary

1003 · GC Checking-8379 4,316.22

1004 · GC Savings-4671 70,921.35

1013 · Easter Sunrise Trip 4698 5.31

Total 1000 · Grand Commandery Summary 75,242.88

Total Checking/Savings 75,242.88

Accounts Receivable

1110 · Accounts receivable -

Total Accounts Receivable -

Other Current Assets

1580 · INVESTMENTS

1582 · Morgan Stanley Life Member 187 9,314.89

1584 · Morgan Stanley-N/A-138 12,001.10

1585 · Morgan Stanley Perm Fund-3187 650,433.88

Total 1580 · INVESTMENTS 671,749.87

Total Other Current Assets 671,749.87

Total Current Assets 746,961.28

TOTAL ASSETS 746,961.28

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable

2010 · Accounts payable -850.00

Total Accounts Payable -850.00

Total Current Liabilities -850.00

Total Liabilities -850.00

Equity
 3010 · Unrestricted (retained earnings) -66,505.05
 3100 · Opening Bal Equity
 3101 · Unrealized Gains and Losses 659,696.44
 3100 · Opening Bal Equity - Other 141,735.52
 Total 3100 · Opening Bal Equity 801,431.96
 3200 · Equity Funds
 3205 · Membership Development Fund 10,000.00
 3510 · Life Membership Fund 2,884.37
 Total 3200 · Equity Funds 12,884.37
 Total Equity 747,811.28
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY \$746,961.28

Annual Statistical Report
01/01/2022 – 12/31/2022

Chartered Commanderies	32
Commanderies UD	<u>1</u>
Total Working Commanderies	33

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

Total Number members of last return		2479
Total number KNIGHTED	121	
Total number AFFILIATED	76	
Total number REINSTATED	17	
Total number ADD ADJUSTMENT	<u>0</u>	
Total Gain		214
Total number DEMITTED	119	
Total number SUSPENDED/EXPELLED	52	
Total number DECEASED	87	
Total number DELETE ADJUSTMENT	<u>0</u>	
Total Loss		(258)
Net Gain (Net Loss)		(44)
Total number of members (Including Duel and Plural)		2,435

	Comparative Statistics						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of Chartered Commanderies	35	33	33	33	33	33	32
Net Loss in Membership	206	519	316	354	236	105	44
# of Commanderies w/ no Knighting's	5	10	10	3	27	10	5
# of Commanderies w/Gain	5	10	7	13	2	10	14
# of Commanderies w/Loss	28	20	23	17	29	20	16
# of Commanderies staying even	2	2	3	2	1	2	1

Total Affiliations	142	235	57	100	42	24	76
Total Reinstatements	9	17	10	38	13	27	17
Total Deaths	120	125	90	108	109	101	87
Total Demits	239	287	103	141	81	98	119
Suspensions/Expelled	117	102	121	104	72	70	52
Remissions Cause & 50 Year	364	339	313	322	352	275	275

Commanderies with less than 100 Members	26
Commanderies with 101-200 Members	6
Commanderies with 201-300 Members	0

Insurance

Properties owned by the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana
(March 31, 2023)

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 art work) 100.00 50.00

30 Skull Caps for 5th Libation 100.00

Toshiba Computer & Accessories (2015) 900.00 200.00

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

Necrology Annual Report

April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023

Commandery Raper #1	Name	Birth	Passing
	None Reported		
Baldwin #2	David W. Maxey	06/06/1948	11/17/2021
	Raymond H. Scheffler	02/24/1921	06/19/2022
	John T. Webb	11/15/1937	04/25/2022
	Philip D. Herthel	08/16/1965	09/14/2022
	Terry G. Amos	12/27/1943	09/30/2022
	Paul R. Jones	02/07/1935	11/04/2020
	Don R. Kimery	10/09/1928	08/08/2021
	Wayne G. Koons	10/13/1933	11/30/2020
	Eddy M. Teets	08/20/1929	08/01/2020
	Robert Robinson	12/22/1940	11/15/2022
Fort Wayne #4	Bob Donald Hobbs	11/04/1932	11/30/2021
	Bruce Bone	08/01/1936	07/27/2022
	Victor B. Porter	02/03/1931	10/24/2021
	Robert C. Anderson	12/18/1934	04/01/2022
New Albany #5	Hubert R. Rockey	11/18/1945	06/30/2022
	Thomas Parrish	02/11/1937	10/15/2022
Connersville #6	Alen R. Arnold	07/02/1928	04/04/2022
Richmond #8	Byron W. Schull	06/16/1927	11/29/2022
	Donald L. Dunaway	10/14/1934	12/05/2022
Greencastle #11	None Reported		
LaPorte #12	Gerald A. Mulholland	10/19/1942	12/25/2022
	James F. Keil	02/13/1926	11/10/2021
	William A. Weisheimer	04/30/1928	01/11/2022
	Jeffery H. Jones	06/09/1956	01/09/2023
	Richard J. Bechinski	07/01/1954	02/25/2023
Columbus #14	Donald D. Abernathy	05/14/1939	08/29/2022
	Ronald P. Graue	11/15/1945	02/06/2022
La Valette #15	Robert D. Sheets, Sr.	12/28/1934	06/10/2022
	Phillip W. Smith	12/29/1945	02/11/2023
	Chester D. Staples	05/11/1938	03/25/2022
Terre Haute #16	Michael G. Loveall	12/03/1946	06/28/2022
	James W. Helms	11/18/1931	02/19/2023
Apollo #19	None Reported		

Vincennes #20	Harold W. Hensley	10/24/1943	06/06/2022
	Doyle E. Butts	05/22/1937	07/05/2022
	Pat Andrew McMillen	06/15/1927	01/16/2022
	Larry L. Benson	12/20/1935	09/24/2022
Grant County #21	Larry W. Brown	06/23/1947	06/30/2022
	Ronald E. Woolard	07/15/1932	07/21/2022
Crawfordsville #25	Archie D. Krout	05/13//1922	06/15/2022
	Irving E. Bressie	03/02/1926	01/30/2023
Valparaiso #28	John A. Null	07/14/1949	07/27/2022
	Richard W. Wierzba	12/04/1936	04/27/2022
	Vivian D. Rittel	09/26/1932	03/26/2022
	Kenneth F. Gillie	04/18/1937	10/10/2022
Frankfort #29	Nevoy S. Culp	12/04/1934	12/29/2020
	Larry Dain	04/22/1939	03/20/2022
	Milard M. Morrison	11/25/1930	12/27/2021
	Robert J. Barr	07/14/1935	11/16/2022
	Jerry L. Harshbarger	01/11/1946	01/02/2023
	Dan F. Snodgrass	08/08/1934	03/09/2022
	Robert W. Yost	04/09/1924	10/04/2022
Elkhart #31	Ronald L. Tungett	12/04/1939	07/19/2022
	C. Lee Chrisman	12/17/1934	06/17/2022
	Raymond C. DeVault	06/06/1927	11/20/2022
	Thriston E. Perrin	11/28/1928	10/10/2022
Anderson #32	Cecil L. McShurley	12/20/1929	04/25/2022
	Maurice B. Carver	03/19/1927	08/15/2021
Huntington #35	None Reported		
Kokomo #36	Virgil D. Hurlock	08/10/1931	09/27/2022
	William C. Chism Jr.	08/25/1925	06/03/2021
	James E. Cole	10/17/1935	01/05/2023
	Charles A. Smelser	05/07/1958	01/19/2023
	William D. Rennaker	01/09/1944	08/25/2021
Greenfield #39	Richard E. Lowe	10/26/1940	05/22/2022
	Robert E. Hawkins	01/01/1930	09/30/2022
	David E. Kessler, Sr.	01/16/1941	12/11/2022
	Martin K. Fall	03/01/1944	12/25/2022
	David C. Pasco	04/25/1946	12/21/2022
	Jack L. Wesley, II	12/12/1971	02/22/2023

Bedford #42	Dick T. Rose	04/11/1939	06/03/2022
	William T. Campbell	10/19/1965	09/15/2022
	Samuel J. Hanners	08/15/1942	12/01/2022
	James M. Watson	07/17/1946	09/22/2022
Angola #45	Carl H. Elliott	03/21/1922	04/01/2022
	John W. Meyers	08/18/1920	08/21/2022
	Harry H. Johnson	02/07/1928	03/06/2021
	Charles R. Sheets	01/01/1929	01/08/2023
	Arthur B. Martin	02/04/1934	10/01/2018
	Charles Y. Kuntzman	12/18/1924	01/01/1900
Elbert H. Gary #57	Walter J. Cooley	09/26/1938	07/07/2022
	Ronald L. Atteberry	09/19/1946	12/15/2021
Noblesville #61	Franklin E. Holt	02/27/1935	11/10/2021
	Dennis Wyatt	04/07/1942	10/04/2022
Prather #62	Justin C. Moore	04/30/1979	10/18/2021
	George N. Clark	08/13/1943	11/18/2020
	Philip D. Herthel	08/16/1965	09/14/2022
	Arthur Roberts	01/21/1946	08/07/2022
	Richard D. Harper	04/23/1934	09/09/2022
	James M. Alexander	09/30/1937	18/18/2022
Bloomington #63	Robert L. Mehringer	02/18/1942	01/27/2022
Wright #64	Harold E. Lynch	09/28/1933	03/21/2022
Wm. G. Bray	Carl E. Kirk	10/26/1947	04/26/2022
	Terry R. Boyer	03/10/1944	11/07/2021
H. E. Lackey #67	None Reported		
Greene County #68	None Reported		

Legislation

1)

2003 00 Proposed Amendment to Section 654 page 8,
of the Grand Commandery of Indiana Laws
Updated through April 29, 2022

As written:

REPRESENTATIVES, ECT, AT GRAND ENCAMPMENT CONCLAVES

SECTION 654: Each Grand Officer who is an official delegate or his proxy and each Past Grand Commander who shall be present in attendance at, and representing this Grand Commandery, in the Grand Encampment of the United States, shall be entitled to receive from the funds in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of this Grand Commandery Five Dollars for each day spent in officially attending the Conclaves of the Grand Encampment,

also the further sum of Five cents per mile for each mile necessarily traveled by the most direct route from a place in Indiana going to and returning from such Conclaves PROVIDED, that a past officer of the Grand Commandery, who is already a member of the Grand Encampment, acting as a proxy for an officer of the Grand Commandery to the Grand Encampment shall not receive dual payment for per diem and mileage for attending the Conclaves of the Grand Encampment as such proxy, all others, either as proxies or members of the Grand Encampment shall receive payment as herein provided.

Changed to Read as Follows:

REPRESENTATIVES, ECT, AT GRAND ENCAMPMENT CONCLAVES

SECTION 654: The Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo and the Grand Captain General or their proxies are the official Representatives of this Grand Commandery and are required to attend the Triennial as such and will have all Transportation, Registration fees and Lodging paid from the Triennial Fund referenced in Section 725.

Each Past Grand Commander who shall be in attendance at, and representing this Grand Commandery, is responsible for their own Registration Fees and Lodging at the Triennial, and shall be entitled to receive from the funds in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of this Grand Commandery a per diem as outlined in Section 725, also the further sum allowed by the IRS (Charitable Organization) per mile for each mile necessarily traveled by the most direct route from a place in Indiana going to and returning from such Conclaves. If the use of commercial transportation is used (flying, train, bus) will cover the cost of using "coach or economy", PROVIDED, that a past officer of the Grand Commandery, who is already a member of the Grand Encampment, acting as a proxy for an officer of the Grand Commandery to the Grand Encampment shall not receive dual payments for per diem and mileage for attending the Conclaves of the Grand Encampment as such proxy.

The reason for the proposed change Is to bring the allowed funds to be brought up to date.

I respectfully move for adoption of the Amendment.

Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC

Proposed Amendment to Section 654 is in Proper Form and was properly second and the motion PASSED

2)

The Uniform Committee Proposed the following amendment to SECTION 920 (d) (RESOLUTION No. 10) WEARING OF JEWELS to include the following. The Jurisprudence Committee advised that this does not go against Grand Commandery Law.

The Addition of the following wording to Section 920(d)

Holy Land Pilgrimage Bar & Jewel (Awarded for pre-determined donation amounts)

ITA Bar (Optional bar can be worn in lieu of present decoration)

Past Commanders Association Bar (Optional bar that may be worn in lieu of PSA Jewel)

Bar Racks (Adopt the use of a multi bar holder that keeps bars aligned and promotes ease of placement on uniform)

The Motion was in Proper form, properly Seconded and Passed, the above would be added to SECTION 920

3)

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

Action of the Grand Commandery on the Resolution to add Section 917. There was a discussion on the floor of the Grand Commandery and Jurisprudence Advised that this be sent to the Uniform Committee to be evaluated and back to the Proposers and that it would lay over till the 170th Annual Conclave and would fall under Unfinished Business.

Battalion Final Reports for 2022/2023

Battalion I

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 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. We are strengthened by the presence of Grand Officers and my DBCs at each of the commanderies. The teamwork within this battalion is noteworthy. We have accomplished all our required assignments and duties for this fiscal year.

Status of Battalion #1 Commanderies:

Laporte #12

This commandery is in great shape. I have always been impressed with. They can perform nearly every part in all the orders. The leadership of the Grand Officers combined with the Commandery Officers creates a deep pool of knowledge. My only suggestion is to continue practicing insuring that new and returning Sir Knights can pick up and participate in the orders.

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 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. I always look forward to visiting them.

E.H. Gary #57

E.H Gary is in the process of rebuilding. Their leadership is increasing their knowledge base and have goals of bringing their inactive members back. With guidance from their experienced members, they are getting back on track. I believe they will become a strong commandery.

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 Sword Bearer
Battalion #1 Commander

Battalion II

Greetings Right Eminent Grand Commander Phillip Whisner, KTCH, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander Randall Ellington, GPE, the Grand Commandery Officers, Past Grand Commanders, and the Sir Knights of Indiana.

This is the year end report for Battalion II which is made up of Fort Wayne Commandery #4, Apollo Commandery #19, Huntington Commandery #35, and Angola Commandery #44.

The Northeast Region has a proud group of Sir Knights that continues to give back to their communities through charity, food drives, donations, and providing laborer's for projects. As we are Christian Organization we truly believe in extending a helping hand to those less fortunate. The Sir Knights of Battalion II are great at this and make me proud daily. There is no second place to generosity and I believe this will only get stronger.

During the year many new Sir Knights have been Knighted and have started their journey in the York Rite. Many of these new Knights have already begun to get involved in the day-to-day actions of their respective Commandery's. The membership is growing but we believe we can make it grow even more and the Sir Knights of Battalion II have made a commitment to that growth. This is all because of the Leadership of the Commanders and the many officers and Sir Knights that give their time to perform the Orders and provide mentorship to all that ask.

To end I believe Battalion II is in good shape overall and will continue to grow. I look forward to giving any assistance needed as we watch our numbers grow. Thank You to the Commanders, the Officers, the Ladies, and the Sir Knights of Battalion II. Without you all we would not be as strong as we are and the sky is the limit on what we can do as Christian Knights.

My Best Regards,

Dominic J. Hamblin, PC, GSW
Battalion II Commander
The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Indiana

Battalion III

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 brining 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 IV

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

Battalion No. 4 consists of; Greencastle No. 11, Terre Haute No. 16, Crawfordsville No. 25 and Frankfort No. 29.

Greencastle No. 11 is still hanging in there. Earlier this year Greencastle had announced that it was going to merge. Since then they have decided they are not yet ready to throw in the towel. They held a Mark Master degree on the road and received 3 new members. They held another Mark Master degree at their January stated meeting with 3 new members. This is a great start. However, they still have a long road to travel and will need assistance to confer future degrees and orders.

Terre Haute No. 16 knighted 4 candidates for 2022. Terre Haute is the strongest in the battalion and can confer the orders with minimal help. They have a solid officer line backed by knowledge and leadership. I have seen as many as 16 members present for a practice. This shows their dedication to the York Rite. This is also the first year in many years that they have had an inspection on their own. They also have 5 candidates going through their degrees and orders for 2023.

Crawfordsville No. 25 has knighted 9 candidates for 2022. Crawfordsville has a solid foundation and continues to grow. Crawfordsville currently requires some help conferring the Orders. They currently have 1 candidate for 2023

Frankfort No. 29 had 1 candidate who was knighted in 2022. Frankfort has struggled this year. The leadership for this year has a good plan in place and is trying to get back some of the members that have stopped coming to meetings. They currently have 3 candidates for 2023.

Courteously,

Joseph L. Sparks
Grand Captain General
Battalion 4 Commander

Battalion V

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

Battalion Five is made up of the following Commanderies, Greenfield #39, Prather #62, Bray #65 and Lackey #67.

Greenfield Commandery #39: Greenfield held a Special Reception for the Right Eminent Grand Commander with Raper Commandery #1, with a great turn out of Sir Knights. Their inspection was done on the Order of Malta, where they did an immaculate job as always.

Prather Commandery #62: Prather keeps attaining Sir Knights and helping other Commanderies build their needs to attain their own Sir Knights. The one-day class that Prather held in the fall produced about 20 Sir Knights for the Indiana Grand Commandery. They will also be conducting a spring and a fall class this year. To help support the need for Templary.

William G. Bray Commandery #65: Bray has done some great things this year and has put the new Sir Knights to work in their Asylum. They continue to grow and work with other Sir Knights around Indiana to get the work done. They continue to have high participation of their Sir Knights at their Stated Conclaves.

H.E. Lackey Commandery #67: Lackey had a meeting February 8 th 2023, and voted to merge with Prather Commandery.

I would like to give a job well done to my Deputy Battalion Commanders John Freeland of Prather Commandery #62, Nathan Ratterman from Baldwin Commandery #2.

Fraternally & sincerely,
Randy J. Darling, GG
Battalion V Commander

Battalion VI

Battalion VI is comprised of Raper Commandery #1, Baldwin Commander #2 and Richmond Commandery #8. I have had the opportunity to visit with each Commandery since being appointed in April. The Commanderies in Battalion VI are doing well. Below is a summary of each:

Raper and Baldwin joined together this year for their reception and inspection, both Commanderies did well. Raper has seen an increase in membership, had members attend the ITA, and presented the flag on multiple occasions. Raper has also contributed financially to the Newby-Avery-Vaught Banquet, Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Knight Templar Crusader and the Holy Land Pilgrimage. Raper has also taken time to visit with sick Sir Knights who are unable to travel. Members of Raper have also participated in drill team competition.

Baldwin Commandery has Knighted five new members this year but unfortunately has experienced a decline in membership. They have conferred the Order of Malta and Order of the Temple this year. They have participated in drill team competition, had members attend the ITA and had a fundraiser with their pizza booth and the county fair. Baldwin has had several events to promote fellowship including dinners before stated conclave, activities with the Blue Lodge, and having an open installation of officers. They have also presented the flag to appendant groups on two occasions. Financially, Baldwin has contributed to the Newby-Avery-Vaught Banquet, Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Knight

Templar Crusader and the Holy Land Pilgrimage.

Richmond Commandery had both a reception and inspection this year and performed well at both. Unfortunately, they have not had the opportunity to confer any of the Orders and experienced a decline in membership this year, however they do have one petition awaiting work. They had an open installation of officers, visited with Blue Lodges and contributed financially to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation and the Knight Templar Crusader. They do send cards to Sir Knights who are sick.

I am happy to report that representatives from all Commanderies in Battalion VI attended the Winter Battalion Meeting held in conjunction with Battalion V at Greenfield in January. Also, we had a few Knights attend the Knight Templar Academy held immediately afterwards.

I am certain that Battalion VI is in good shape and will continue to get stronger with the efforts of the Sir Knights.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark A. Elder,
Grand Sentinel
Battalion VI Commander

Battalion VII

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

New Albany # 5

New Albany Commandery participated in an Instructional with Columbus on October 12th. Attendance was very low. A lot of different subjects were covered during the Instructional which they are going to take back and share with the rest of their members. They also participated in the reception held on November 12th. They had several attend the ITA held in Bloomington and have done 3 flag presentations this year. Their other activities remain the same as in the past. They have started making plans for next year to increase their activities and membership.

Columbus # 14

Columbus hosted the Instructional with New Albany on October 12th and the reception held on November 12th.

It was the first time for many of their members to participate in the Instructional as well as the reception. They learned a lot and were receptive to the help they received. Their attendance at their stated conclaves has been very good this year, yet they are lacking in activities. This is something they need to work on in the upcoming year.

Bedford # 42

Bedford hosted the Inspection and Reception on November 5th. They have had several different activities throughout the year trying to increase membership participation, but attendance at their stated conclaves remains low. They are exploring other possibilities to increase attendance and membership. They have done several flag presentations for the Scottish Rite and Blue Lodge functions in the area. There are still talks of having a drill team again, but with membership currently being low it probably won't happen in the near future. They have several candidates going through the Chapter and Council degrees and will try to schedule their orders this spring.

Bloomington #63

Bloomington participated in the Inspection and Reception held at Bedford. Their attendance remains low and are currently trying different things to increase this. They hosted the ITA this year with several of their members participating. Their activities for the year are low, but better than they have been in the past. Battalion 7 held their battalion meeting on March 4th at Bedford. All four commanderies were represented. We have set our inspection dates and will start to put together a cast list shortly. I would also like to thank my DBC's Vance Brewer and Rick Milligan for all of their help this year and also Rocky Myers for joining us next year.

In general, overall Battalion attendance remains low with very little gain. All 4 commanderies need to look at ways to increase membership and participation. While all have ritualists, none have enough to put the orders on by themselves. Working together they can perform the orders and have done this several times this past year. I will continue to work with them and help them any way I can.

Courteously,

Jon McCracken, GJW
Battalion VII Commander

Battalion VIII

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

Here is my following Winter Report and Summary for Battalion #8:

As the Battalion Commander for Battalion #8, I have continued to visit and communicate with the 4 Commanderies in my Battalion. These Commanderies are working on improving attendance, as well as improving their work in conferring orders. As a Battalion, we need to continue to work as a team on areas such as improving on ritual work and tactics. Attendance and participation is improving for the most part.

On August 10, 2022, Vincennes Commandery #20 hosted the Grand Commander's reception, where all 4 Commanderies came together to make this a successful event.

On September 19, 2022, Vincennes Commandery #20 hosted the Inspection that was done with Green Co. Commandery #68. Both Commanderies performed well. On September 20, 2022, Lavalette Commandery #15 hosted the Inspection that was done with Wright Commandery #64. The Inspection went fairly well. In my

overview of the Inspections of the 4 Commanderies, we still need to work on both the ritual and the tactics.

Lavalette Commandery #15 is continuing to improve with Attendance and Order Conferral. On November 19, 2022, Lavalette Commandery Conferred all 3 Orders for 6 new Candidates. We had joint participation for this event with Wright Commandery #64 and Green Co. Commandery #68. Grand Inspector General Mike Robbins conferred the Order of the Temple and Grand Junior Warden John McCracken sat in as the Warder. The Day was a great success. On December 22, 2022, Lavalette will have their annual Christmas Observance program.

Vincennes Commandery is still struggling with membership participation. Sir Knight Larry Sisk is continuing to head up the Southwest York Rite Association to promote activity in the Vincennes Commandery as well as support and activity in the other 3 Commanderies in Battalion #8.

Wright Commandery #64 is running strong and improving all the time. During this period, they have hosted practices for the Reception and Inspections that were held and have been great support in the Order work that Lavalette conferred in November.

Green Co. Commandery #68 is continuing to run well with their Stated Meeting and assisting the other 3 Commanderies when needed. Green Co. also supported and participated in the Order work that was conferred at Lavalette in November. Even though they have not had any recent Order work for new candidate, Green Co. continues to show strength and dedication.

In summary, the Commanderies in Battalion #8 are doing well. They are continuing to work on improvements in all areas. As a whole, the Commanderies in Battalion #8 work really well together and show great enthusiasm.

Fraternally Submitted;
Douglas E. Patmore, PC.
Grand Warder
Battalion #8 Commander