

Advanced Proceedings for 2025 Grand Conclave

Biography Of Randy J. Darling

Randy was born on May 22, 1967, to Jimmy L Darling and Emma (Burgess) In Cincinnati Ohio. He married Penny Sue Turner on June 4, 1988. Penny has supported Randy throughout all his endeavors while maintaining a steady household. They have three children, William, Randy Jr. and Tina. They also have 7 grandchildren. They are current members of Grace Wesleyan Church in Shelbyville, Indiana.

Randy began his military career in 1985. He served in the United States Army, the Army Reserves and the Indiana National Guard. He had held leadership positions of Team Leader, Section Leader, Fire Direction Leader, Squad Leader, Platoon Sergeant, Drill Sergeant, First Sergeant and Sergeant Major. Randy also held instructor positions in PLDC (Primary Leadership Development), BNCOC (Basic Non-Commissioned Officer Course), Small Group Leader and the Infantry Mortar Leader Course. Randy retired after 28 years of service in 2013.

Randy continues to work as the Air Pressure Manager for AT&T (American Telephone and Telegraph) In the Indianapolis, Indiana Market.

Randy received his Entered Apprentice degree in October 2013, his Fellowcraft Degree in November 2013 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on December 8th, 2013 at Farmers Lodge #147 in Norristown, Indiana. Randy served as Worshipful Master of Farmers Lodge #147 in 2017 and 2024.

Randy received his York Rite Degrees in March 2014. He Belongs to the Shelby York Rite Bodies, serving as High Priest of Shelby Chapter #20 in 2017, Illustrious Master of Emil L. Steffey Council #3 in 2018 and Eminent Commander of Baldwin Commandery #2 in 2016. He still serves as the Treasurer in all three bodies and as the Drill Captain of Baldwin Commandery Drill Team.

Other appendant bodies:

Robert A Woods Priory #62 KYCH
Yeomen Of York, Indiana Preceptory #4
Indiana Widow Sons, Solomons Guard- Past President
Allied Masonic Dergees, St. Bartholomew Council #25
Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priest- St. Andrews XXXV
Knight Masons- Prather Council #125
York Rite College- Marvin L. Isley #129

Red Cross of Constantine- St. Cyril
Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite- Valley of Indianapolis and Valley of George Rogers Clark
National Sojourners/ Heroes of '76- Ft. Harrison #66
St. Thomas of Acon- Canterbury Chapel #37

Grand Commandery:

Randy served as a Deputy Battalion Commander serving the Sir Knights of Battalion #6 from 2016 to 2019. He was appointed as the Grand Marshall in 2018 by Past Grand Commander Lawrence Williams. Randy served as Battalion Commander for Battalion #5 and #7 for many years and served on numerous committees as a line officer. Randy was elected as the Right Eminent Grand Commander on April 27, 2024, at the One Hundred and Seventh Conclave of the Indiana Grand Commandery.

GRAND COMMANDER'S ALLOCUTION

Welcome:

On behalf of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Indiana, I would like to thank you for attending the 171st Annual Grand Conclave. I would like to welcome all the Sir Knights from neighboring jurisdictions and the Representatives of the Grand Encampment, Grand Lodge and all Distinguished guests from the other appendant bodies. If there is anything you need, let me or one of the other officers know and we will do our best to accommodate you.

I am very honored and humbled to be elected to serve the Sir Knights of the Great State of Indiana. I am very proud to say that we have tried and done a lot of things this year. To the Sir Knights of Indiana, you have stepped up time and time again to show how strong the Christian belief is in Our Grand Commandery.

One of my last duties as your Grand Commander is to report on my activities of this Great Commandery over the past 12 months.

Meetings:

We have held several in-person meetings and Webex meetings over the last year.

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| April 27, 2024 Officers Meeting | Muncie, Indiana |
| Discussed my Plans | |
| Discussed General Orders | |
| Office Expectations | |
| Discussed Inspections Scheduled | |
| May 15, 2024 Officer Meeting | Webex |
| Discussed key events going on in Battalions | |

Battalion Structures
Upcoming Summer Meeting/ Leader Training

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| June 22, 2024 Summer Meeting- AM Battalion Reports Committee Reports Reviewed Battalion Structures | Fairland, Indiana |
| June 22, 2024 Summer Meeting- PM Expectations of officers General Order #1- in depth Inspection Score Sheets Receptions Expectations | |
| July 25, 2025 Officer Meeting Triennial/ Michigan Visits | Webex |
| August 29, 2024 Officers Meeting Triennial- Officer Results Michigan Conclave- Legislation New Grand Commandery Officer Jewels Grand Commandery Website Updates | Webex |
| November 11, 2024 Officers Meeting Updates from Battalion Commanders | |
| January 18, 2025 Executive Officers/ Winter Meeting Executive Meeting Committee Reports Battalion Reports Jurisprudence Meeting Newby- Avery- Vaught Banquet | Muncie, Indiana |
| April 25, 2025 Officers Meeting Jurisprudence Meeting General Officer Meeting | Muncie, Indiana |

Grand Commandery Picnic:

We held three Grand Commandery Picnics. The Picnic were open to any Sir Knight, Mason and family members. The first one was held on Saturday June 30th at Spring Mill State Park. The second one was held on July 13th at the Rainbow Girls Camp. The third one was held on August 4th at Central Lake Park in Warsaw Indiana. There was a combined total of 124 people at the three events. Everyone that came brought a dish to share with everyone.

Knights Templar Ball:

The inaugural Indiana Knights Templar Ball was held at the Horizon Convention Center, on September 21, 2024. 53 Sir Knights and their Ladies were able to come to the Informal gathering and enjoy the fellowship, with hors d'oeuvres, live DJ and dancing.

Grand Commandery Christmas Party:

The Annual Grand Commandery Christmas Party was held at the Rainbow Girls Camp in Edinburgh, Indiana. There were over 50 Sir Knights and their Ladies in attendance to fellowship and celebrate this Christmas Season. There was a "White Elephant" gift exchange. Christmas scenery was made by Lady Penny, and tickets were drawn for pick of choice.

Newby-Avery-Vaught Banquet:

The Newby-Avery-Vaught was open again to any Sir Knight and their Lady who wished to attend. There were 89 Sir Knights and their Ladies in attendance. Guest of honor for the evening was Sir Knight Past Grand Master Duane L. Vaught and guest speaker was Sir Knight Jay Kenndy, East Central Department Commander. All proceeds went to the Grand Commandery Permanent Fund.

Visitations:

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| May 2, 2024 | Farmers Lodge #147 | Edinburgh, Indiana |
| May 13, 2024 | Shelby County Chapter and Council | Fairland, Indiana |
| April 26-27, 2024 | Indiana Grand Conclave | Muncie, Indiana |
| May 17, 2024 | Order of Eastern Star | Shelbyville, Indiana |
| May 18, 2024 | Orak Shrine Potentates Ball | Michigan City, Indiana |
| May 20, 2024 | Grand Masters Dinner and Reception | Indianapolis, Indiana |
| May 21, 2024 | Grand Lodge of Indiana | Indianapolis, Indiana |
| May 23, 2024 | Shelby County Memorial Service | Fairland, Indiana |
| May 27, 2024 | Baldwin Commandery #2 | Fairland, Indiana |
| May 30, 2024 | Grand Court of Amarant | Nashville, Indiana |
| June 3, 2024 | Prather York Rite | Indianapolis, Indiana |
| June 6, 2024 | Farmers Lodge #147 | Edinburgh, Indiana |
| June 7, 2024 | Grand Order of Eastern Star | Muncie, Indiana |
| June 21, 2024 | Naamah Chapter OES | Shelbyville, Indiana |
| June 22, 2024 | Summer Meeting/ Officer Training | Fairland, Indiana |
| June 24, 2025 | Baldwin Commandery #2 | Fairland, Indiana |
| June 29, 2024 | Indiana DeMolay Conclave | Wabash, Indiana |
| June 30, 2024 | Grand Commandery Picnic (south) | Spring Mill State Park |
| July 11, 2024 | Order of Rainbow Session | Nashville, Indiana |
| July 13, 2024 | Grand Commandery Picnic (central) | Edinburgh, Indiana |
| July 15, 2024 | Bedford Commandery | Bedford, Indiana |
| July 16, 2024 | Nineveh OES | Nineveh, Indiana |
| July 17, 2024 | Battalion IV Reception | Crawfordsville, Indiana |
| July 18, 2024 | Grant County #21 Inspection | Gas City, Indiana |
| July 19, 2024 | Namaah Chapter OES | Shelbyville, Indiana |

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| July 20, 2024 | Annual Cryptic Rededication | New Albany, Indiana |
| July 27, 2024 | Vincennes Commandery Inspection | Vincennes, Indiana |
| July 28, 2024 | KYCH | Nashville, Indiana |
| August 4, 2024 | Grand Commandery Picnic (north) | Warsaw, Indiana |
| August 5, 2024 | Prather #62 Reception | Indianapolis, Indiana |
| August 24, 2024 | Vincennes/ Greene Co. Rec/Insp | Vincennes, Indiana |
| August 24, 2024 | Anderson/Noblesville/Kokomo Insp | Anderson, Indiana |
| August 26, 2024 | Richmond Reception | Richmond, Indiana |
| September 8, 2024 | Masonic Home Festival | Franklin, Indiana |
| September 14, 2024 | Bray Rededication | Mooresville, Indiana |
| September 17, 2024 | Grant County #21 Reception | Gas City Indiana |
| September 20, 2024 | Social Order of the Beauceant #90 | Greenfield, Indiana |
| September 21, 2024 | Greenfield Commandery Reception | Greenfield, Indiana |
| September 21, 2024 | Indiana Templar Ball | Muncie, Indiana |
| September 23, 2024 | Baldwin Commandery #2 Reception | Fairland, Indiana |
| October 5, 2024 | Terre Haute/ Green Castle Inspection | Terre Haute, Indiana |
| October 5, 2024 | Ish Sodi | Indianapolis, Indiana |
| October 10, 2024 | Bray Commandery Reception | Mooresville, Indiana |
| October 19, 2024 | Columbus/ New Albany Inspection | Columbus, Indiana |
| October 19, 2024 | Bray Commandery Special Recep | Mooresville, Indiana |
| October 21, 2024 | EH Gary/ Valparaiso Inspection | Valparaiso, Indiana |
| October 24, 2024 | Battalion #1 Reception | Laport, Indiana |
| October 26, 2024 | Raper Commandery Inspec/Recep | Indianapolis, Indiana |
| October 26, 2024 | Anderson/Kokomo/Noblesville Rec | Anderson, Indiana |
| November 2, 2024 | Bedford/ Bloomington Inspec/ Rec | Bedford, Indiana |
| November 7, 2024 | Farmers Lodge #147 | Edinburgh, Indiana |
| November 11, 2024 | Compass Park Veterans Day Prog | Franklin, Indiana |
| November 14, 2024 | Greenfield Commandery Inspection | Greenfield, Indiana |
| November 16, 2024 | Lavalette/ Wright Inspection | Evansville, Indiana |
| November 18, 2024 | Richmond Commandery Inspection | Richmond, Indiana |
| November 22, 2024 | Crawfordsville Commandery Inspec | Crawfordsville, Indiana |
| November 23, 2024 | Prather Commandery All Day Orders | Indianapolis, Indiana |
| November 25, 2024 | Baldwin Commandery Inspection | Fairland, Indiana |
| December 8, 2024 | Grand Commandery Christmas Party | Edinburgh, Indiana |
| December 19, 2024 | Grant County Installation of Officers | Gas City, Indiana |
| January 11, 2025 | Founders Day | Indianapolis, Indiana |
| January 18, 2025 | Newby-Avery- Vaught Banquet | Muncie, Indiana |
| March 7-8 2025 | East Central Department Conference | Fort Wayne, Indiana |
| March 15, 2024 | Widow Sons Solomons Guard | Franklin, Indiana |
| March 17, 2025 | 50 Year Award presentation | Anderson, Indiana |
| March 19, 2025 | Crawfordsville Commandery | Crawfordsville, Indiana |
| March 22, 2025 | Indiana Templar Academy | Warsaw, Indiana |
| March 29, 2025 | Sword of Bunker Hill | Indianapolis, Indiana |
| March 29, 2025 | Order of Eastern Star | Franklin, Indiana |
| April 4, 2025 | Outgoing High Priest Banquet | Nashville, Indiana |
| April 5, 2025 | Grand Chapter Convocation | Nashville, Indiana |

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|------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| April 14, 2025 | Grand Council Annual Assembly | Indianapolis, Indiana |
| April 25-26 2025 | 171 st Grand Conclave | Muncie, Indiana |

Out of State Visitations:

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| July 26, 2024 | Grand Conclave of Illinois | Springfield, Illinois |
| August 14-21, 2024 | 69 th Triennial | Salt Lake, Utah |
| September 15-16, 2024 | Grand Commandery of Kentucky | Lexington, Kentucky |
| October 11-12, 2024 | Ohio Grand Conclave | Columbus, Ohio |
| April 16-20, 2025 | Easter Sunrise Trip | Washington D.C. |

Philanthropies:

Holy Land Pilgrimage coins were minted and sold throughout the State. With the selling of the coins. We have raised \$3000 for this Holy Land Pilgrimage.

Bulletins:

- Bulletin #1: Certificate of Merit
- Bulletin #2: DSA
- Bulletin #3: KTCH
- Bulletin #4: Ritual Award Program
- Bulletin #5: Battalion Commander and Deputy Battalion Commander Visits
- Bulletin #6: Resignation of the Grand Standard Bearer
- Bulletin #7: Resignation of Grand Recorder and Appointment of Grand Recorder
- Bulletin #8: Resignation of Grand Trustee
- Bulletin #9: Appointment of Grand Sentinel

General Orders:

- General Order #1: Annual Inspections and Receptions of Constituent Commanderies
- General Order #2: Special Dispensations
- General Order #3: Mentoring New Members and Junior Officers
- General Order #4: Libations for Candidates under the Age of 21
- General Order #5: R. Frank Williams Award Program

Dispensations:

- Dispensation #1: Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery of Research, UD
- Dispensation #2: Levant Preceptory, UD
- Dispensation #3: Wright Commandery # 64 to Move their Charter

By-Laws:

I approved the following By-Law changes this year:

- Prather Commandery #62
- Anderson Commandery #32
- Bedford Commandery #42
- Elkhart Commandery #31
- Raper Commandery #1

Baldwin Commandery #2
Crawfordsville Commandery #25
Laporte Commandery #12

Goals:

- 1- Replace the Grand Commandery Officer Jewels with a more cost-efficient jewel. Due to the age and the high cost of repairing them. **Completed**
- 2- To assign a Membership committee to improve recruiting and retention. **Completed**
- 3- Encourage constituent Commanderies to do Orders in their own Asylum with little or no help. **Completed**
- 4- Increase membership Statewide in accordance with the Grand Master plan. **Completed**
- 5- Recognizing Eminent Commanders and newly Knighted Sir Knights. **Completed**
- 6- Increase communication throughout the Grand Line Officers to ensure success, while working as a team. **Completed**
- 7- Support and encourage the Social Order of the Beauceant Ladies and have them speak at every opportunity. **Completed**
- 8- Add more social events to include other Masons to improve fellowship and recruitment to the organization. **Completed**
- 9- Keep the Newby-Avery-Vaught Banquet open to all Sir Knights to increase the permanent fund. **Completed**
- 10- Have leadership training in conjunction with the Summer Meeting. **Completed**

Recommendations:

- 1- Continue to have open communication and leadership development for all officers.
- 2- Continue to have as many Receptions as possible, while inviting the Ladies.
- 3- Continue to ask the Ladies of the Social Order of the Beauceant to speak at any Commandery function.
- 4- Continue to add more social events to improve camaraderie. Which will improve recruitment and retention.
- 5- Continue to Support and promote the youth groups.
- 6- Continue to keep making the Indiana Templar Academy fresh, with new information and ideas.
- 7- Continue improving the Knight Templar Ball.
- 8- Continue to support the Drill Teams
- 9- Continuing the Ritual Competition

Conclusion:

While traveling throughout our great state this year and watching some great work by the Sir Knights of Indiana. I am hopeful that the help and encouragement our Sir Knight has received will continue to move in an upward trend. Constituent Commanderies never hesitated to reach out to myself or the Battalion Commanders to seek guidance and help while confirming the Templar Orders. Many of the newly Knighted Knights have already stepped up and taken chairs in their own Asylums to assist in the work. Christian Masonry is prospering in our ranks. Taking the challenge that I put out in the 2024 Winter Meeting has paid off with great dividends.

Sir Knights of Indiana. I am so proud and humble to be able to serve you for the last 12 months. You have made my term as Grand Commander exciting and enjoyable.

Lastly, I would like to give big hug and thanks to my Lady Penny. We have been married for 38 years, and she has supported me and stood beside me in everything I have done. Penny has traveled with me on many occasions and been my force of inspiration on all those late-night trips that she could not attend. She is my rock and I'm glad to have this opportunity to make this exciting journey with her by my side.

Courteously submitted,

Randy J. Darling, REGC, KCT

Committee Reports

Leadership (ITA) Year-End Report 2024-2025

To the REGC Randy Darling, the Officers of the Grand Commandery, Past Grand Commanders, Sir Knights all, I recommend that the Grand Commandery continue to hold at least three Indiana Templar Academies or leadership development classes, one in the North, one in the South and one in the Central and that the Grand Generalissimo be in charge of this education program for each ensuing year.

This year the ITA will be on the American Flag protocols. We will also discuss the many different hats that are worn in Commandery and try to promote the summer uniform. These meetings are coming up in January, February, and March. We will travel to three different locations in the state to present this information to the Sir Knights of Indiana.

During the month of January, we presented the ITA in the central location which was Frankfort Commandery #29. We had over 35 Sir Knights to attend. The Sir Knights of Frankfort were gracious enough to provide us with refreshments for all in attendance.

In the month of February, we travelled to Bedford Commandery #42 for the southern part of the state Sir Knights. This was also well attended by a very enthusiastic group that was ready for the new knowledge at hand for some.

March took us to the north part of the state where Warsaw Lodge #73 was gracious enough to allow us to have our ITA there. The hospitality was amazing. We were even blessed to have some of their members join us as well and this may lead to some new candidates in York Rite. This is another way to grow our wonderful fraternity.

During each one of our meetings there was great conversation about all the subjects at hand. Many of the Sir Knights learned some new things about the flag that they never knew, so I

believe this was a great subject for the leadership committee to bring to the Sir Knights. Many of the members present did not know that there was a meaning for each one of the folds of the American Flag. There were many great questions that were answered by the committee and our many Veterans that were in attendance. I believe overall that we had a great leadership program this year and look forward to the future of this program.

Dominic J. Hamblin, GG-Chair

Jonathan McCracken, GCG

Dathan Reed, GSW

Long Range Planning Annual Report

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, Grand Commandery Officers and 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 needs revamping and is currently being updated 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 has been addressed and is in the process.
2. To continue the use of social media including Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, and the Website to drive more involvement from across the State by both Local Commanderies, Sir Knights and Grand Commandery Officers.
3. Be more visible as a Grand Commandery or Local Commandery/York Rite at Local and Regional events, whether it would be Masonic or Non-Masonic 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. Lowering Remits, Demits, and Suspensions to 3% or lower of our individual commandery and state membership. Membership should be everyone's goal!
5. Continue to evaluate the Ritual and Drill Competition's and continue to make them viable parts of our Grand Commandery Session.
6. Evaluate and support Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery of Research, U.D. and their contribution to the Sir Knights of Indiana.

7. Promote training of MMS and continue to institute better means of communication such as Mail Chip or Constant Contact.

Courteously,
Joseph Sparks, VEDGC – Chair
George Ingles, PGC, KCT
Michael Robbins, PGC, KCT – 1 Year Appointment
Edward Fodrea, PGC, KCT, GR – 2 Year Appointment
Phillip Whisner, PGC, KCT – 3 Year Appointment
Jonathan McCracken, GCG – 1 Year
Dathan Reed, GSW – 2 Years
Scott Sacek, GJW – 3 Years

Grand Recorder's Report

April 1, 2025

Right Eminent Grand Commander Randy Darling

Grand Commandery Officers

Past Grand Commanders

Sir Knights All,

I am but a short time in this position. With the resignation of Sir Knight Edward Fodrea, PGC, KCT, from this position and my recent appointment in the past month, I have a little bit of catching up as what has happened this past Templar year.

Let me start by saying that we had some good news:

- 108 Knightings
- 116 Affiliations
- 8 Reinstatements
- Total Gains of 232 Sir Knights

Now there is some bad news:

- Demits 156
- Suspensions 45
- Deaths 70
- Total Loss of 271 Sir Knights

Unfortunately, this past year there were two Consolidations. Elbert H. Gary #57 consolidated with Valparaiso #28 and Greencastle #11 consolidated with Terre Haute #16. We now have 29 working Commanderies.

As stated, we have 29 Commanderies. The largest has Prather 195 members. The Huntington smallest has 33 members

Annual Statistical Report - Start: 4/1/2024 End: 3/31/2025
Grand Encampment of Knights Templar
Grand Commandery of Indiana
Stationed at Chesterton, IN

Total Working Commanderies = 29

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

| | | |
|--|------------|----------------|
| Total number members on last return = | | <u>2,381</u> |
| Total number KNIGHTED = | <u>108</u> | |
| Total number AFFILIATED = | <u>116</u> | |
| Total number REINSTATED = | <u>8</u> | |
| Total number ADD ADJUSTMENT = | <u>0</u> | |
| Total Gain (+) | <u>232</u> | |
| Total number DEMITTED = | <u>156</u> | |
| Total number SUSPENDED = | <u>45</u> | |
| Total number DECEASED = | <u>70</u> | |
| Total number EXPELLED = | <u>0</u> | |
| Total number DELETE ADJUSTMENT = | <u>0</u> | |
| Total Loss (-) | <u>271</u> | |
| Net Gain (Net Loss) = | | <u>(39)</u> |
| Total number of members (including Dual and Plural) | | <u>= 2,342</u> |

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR EYE FOUNDATION

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Living/Active Life Sponsors = | <u>886</u> |
| Living/Active Associate Patrons = | <u>15</u> |
| Living/Active Patrons = | <u>8</u> |
| Total Deductions | <u>909</u> |

Note: A "Living/Active" member may be counted only once for an Eye Foundation deduction even if the member has purchased multiples within a level or across levels.

Example: If member has 2 Life Sponsors, 1 Associate Patron and 3 Patrons he is counted as 1 in Life Sponsor or if member has 2 Associate Patrons and 1 Patron he is counted as 1 in Associate Patron.

The average age of a Sir Knight in Indiana is 66 years old

Average Age - Parameters: Indiana, Knights Templar

As of 4/1/2025 11:12:36 AM

| Commandery | Active No DOB | Active DOB | Avg. Age | 18-29 | | 30-39 | | 40-49 | | 50-59 | | 60-69 | | 70-79 | | 80-89 | | 90-99 | | 100+ | | Totals | |
|----------------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------|-------|-----|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|------|-----|--------|-------|
| | | | | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % |
| Indiana | 10 | 2332 | 66 | 32 | 1.4 | 113 | 4.8 | 283 | 12.1 | 405 | 17.4 | 435 | 18.7 | 559 | 24.0 | 400 | 17.2 | 99 | 4.2 | 6 | 0.3 | 2332 | 100.0 |
| 1 - Raper | 0 | 42 | 65.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 4.8 | 7 | 16.7 | 6 | 14.3 | 7 | 16.7 | 12 | 28.6 | 8 | 19.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 42 | 1.8 |
| 2 - Baldwin | 3 | 78 | 63.2 | 1 | 1.3 | 7 | 9.0 | 8 | 10.3 | 24 | 30.8 | 11 | 14.1 | 9 | 11.5 | 15 | 19.2 | 3 | 3.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 78 | 3.3 |
| 4 - Fort Wayne | 0 | 120 | 65.5 | 2 | 1.7 | 3 | 2.5 | 15 | 12.5 | 26 | 21.7 | 22 | 18.3 | 32 | 26.7 | 14 | 11.7 | 4 | 3.3 | 2 | 1.7 | 120 | 5.1 |
| 5 - New Albany | 0 | 79 | 64.2 | 1 | 1.3 | 3 | 3.8 | 12 | 15.2 | 17 | 21.5 | 16 | 20.3 | 18 | 22.8 | 8 | 10.1 | 4 | 5.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 79 | 3.4 |
| 8 - Richmond | 0 | 54 | 70.4 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 1.9 | 5 | 9.3 | 5 | 9.3 | 11 | 20.4 | 17 | 31.5 | 13 | 24.1 | 2 | 3.7 | 0 | 0.0 | 54 | 2.3 |
| 12 - La Porte | 0 | 98 | 64.4 | 1 | 1.0 | 3 | 3.1 | 10 | 10.2 | 27 | 27.6 | 18 | 18.4 | 25 | 25.5 | 13 | 13.3 | 1 | 1.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 98 | 4.2 |
| 14 - Columbus | 0 | 115 | 73.5 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 9 | 7.8 | 10 | 8.7 | 22 | 19.1 | 32 | 27.8 | 34 | 29.6 | 8 | 7.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 115 | 4.9 |
| 15 - LaValette | 0 | 96 | 66.9 | 2 | 2.1 | 6 | 6.3 | 9 | 9.4 | 11 | 11.5 | 16 | 16.7 | 33 | 34.4 | 18 | 18.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 1 | 1.0 | 96 | 4.1 |
| 16 - Terre Haute | 0 | 106 | 67.4 | 1 | 0.9 | 3 | 2.8 | 14 | 13.2 | 17 | 16.0 | 15 | 14.2 | 35 | 33.0 | 17 | 16.0 | 4 | 3.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 106 | 4.5 |
| 19 - Apollo | 1 | 45 | 64.4 | 0 | 0.0 | 5 | 11.1 | 6 | 13.3 | 5 | 11.1 | 9 | 20.0 | 12 | 26.7 | 7 | 15.6 | 1 | 2.2 | 0 | 0.0 | 45 | 1.9 |
| 20 - Vincennes | 0 | 56 | 68.7 | 1 | 1.8 | 3 | 5.4 | 6 | 10.7 | 7 | 12.5 | 9 | 16.1 | 14 | 25.0 | 11 | 19.6 | 4 | 7.1 | 1 | 1.8 | 56 | 2.4 |
| 21 - Grant County | 0 | 65 | 66.4 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 3.1 | 10 | 15.4 | 8 | 12.3 | 16 | 24.6 | 17 | 26.2 | 11 | 16.9 | 1 | 1.5 | 0 | 0.0 | 65 | 2.8 |
| 25 - Crawfordsville | 0 | 48 | 60.9 | 1 | 2.1 | 2 | 4.2 | 10 | 20.8 | 9 | 18.8 | 12 | 25.0 | 7 | 14.6 | 7 | 14.6 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 48 | 2.1 |
| 28 - Valparaiso | 0 | 194 | 63.3 | 5 | 2.6 | 9 | 4.6 | 32 | 16.5 | 38 | 19.6 | 31 | 16.0 | 48 | 24.7 | 23 | 11.9 | 8 | 4.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 194 | 8.3 |
| 29 - Frankfort | 2 | 114 | 70.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 1.8 | 10 | 8.8 | 21 | 18.4 | 19 | 16.7 | 27 | 23.7 | 27 | 23.7 | 7 | 6.1 | 1 | 0.9 | 114 | 4.9 |
| 31 - Elkhart | 0 | 55 | 63.7 | 2 | 3.6 | 6 | 10.9 | 5 | 9.1 | 9 | 16.4 | 8 | 14.5 | 13 | 23.6 | 10 | 18.2 | 2 | 3.6 | 0 | 0.0 | 55 | 2.4 |
| 32 - Anderson | 2 | 79 | 74.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 3 | 3.8 | 3 | 3.8 | 13 | 16.5 | 5 | 6.3 | 20 | 25.3 | 26 | 32.9 | 9 | 11.4 | 0 | 0.0 | 79 | 3.4 |
| 35 - Huntington | 0 | 33 | 68.2 | 2 | 6.1 | 1 | 3.0 | 1 | 3.0 | 5 | 15.2 | 8 | 24.2 | 8 | 24.2 | 4 | 12.1 | 4 | 12.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 33 | 1.4 |
| 36 - Kokomo | 0 | 46 | 72.2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 5 | 10.9 | 6 | 13.0 | 8 | 17.4 | 11 | 23.9 | 10 | 21.7 | 6 | 13.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 46 | 2.0 |
| 39 - Greenfield | 1 | 159 | 70.1 | 1 | 0.6 | 9 | 5.7 | 8 | 5.0 | 23 | 14.5 | 32 | 20.1 | 37 | 23.3 | 37 | 23.3 | 11 | 6.9 | 1 | 0.6 | 159 | 6.8 |
| 42 - Bedford | 0 | 75 | 56.1 | 3 | 4.0 | 8 | 10.7 | 18 | 24.0 | 20 | 26.7 | 8 | 10.7 | 10 | 13.3 | 7 | 9.3 | 1 | 1.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 75 | 3.2 |
| 45 - Angola | 0 | 59 | 66.2 | 1 | 1.7 | 3 | 5.1 | 6 | 10.2 | 8 | 13.6 | 13 | 22.0 | 16 | 27.1 | 9 | 15.3 | 3 | 5.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 59 | 2.5 |
| 61 - Noblesville | 0 | 39 | 63.2 | 2 | 5.1 | 3 | 7.7 | 6 | 15.4 | 5 | 12.8 | 10 | 25.6 | 5 | 12.8 | 5 | 12.8 | 3 | 7.7 | 0 | 0.0 | 39 | 1.7 |
| 62 - Prather | 0 | 195 | 58.7 | 1 | 0.5 | 18 | 9.2 | 45 | 23.1 | 38 | 19.5 | 39 | 20.0 | 37 | 19.0 | 13 | 6.7 | 4 | 2.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 195 | 8.4 |
| 63 - Bloomington | 1 | 75 | 71 | 1 | 1.3 | 3 | 4.0 | 4 | 5.3 | 5 | 6.7 | 19 | 25.3 | 19 | 25.3 | 19 | 25.3 | 5 | 6.7 | 0 | 0.0 | 75 | 3.2 |
| 64 - Wright | 0 | 39 | 62.6 | 2 | 5.1 | 2 | 5.1 | 5 | 12.8 | 5 | 12.8 | 11 | 28.2 | 9 | 23.1 | 5 | 12.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 39 | 1.7 |
| 65 - William G. Bray | 0 | 70 | 70.3 | 1 | 1.4 | 2 | 2.9 | 2 | 2.9 | 9 | 12.9 | 17 | 24.3 | 18 | 25.7 | 17 | 24.3 | 4 | 5.7 | 0 | 0.0 | 70 | 3.0 |
| 68 - Greene County | 0 | 34 | 65 | 0 | 0.0 | 2 | 5.9 | 0 | 0.0 | 11 | 32.4 | 9 | 26.5 | 7 | 20.6 | 5 | 14.7 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 34 | 1.5 |
| 500 - Lawrence V. Kaminsky | 0 | 64 | 60.7 | 1 | 1.6 | 2 | 3.1 | 12 | 18.8 | 17 | 26.6 | 14 | 21.9 | 11 | 17.2 | 7 | 10.9 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 64 | 2.7 |
| Total | 10 | 2332 | 66 | 32 | 1.4 | 113 | 4.8 | 283 | 12.1 | 405 | 17.4 | 435 | 18.7 | 559 | 24.0 | 400 | 17.2 | 99 | 4.2 | 6 | 0.3 | 2332 | 100.0 |

The youngest average age Commandery is Prather #62 at 58.7 years of age.

The oldest Commandery is Anderson #32 at 74.3 years of age.

For breakdown of Membership by Commandery see below:

Annual Report Detail Only

Period Start: 04/01/2024

End: 03/31/2025

| All activity is based on the modified date (when updated) that falls within requested date range | | | | | | | | | | | Modified Date |
|--|-------------------------|--------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-----------|------------|----------|------------|-----------------------|
| Part 1 Statistical | Active Members At Start | Knighted (+) | Demit (-) | Affiliate (+) | Suspend (-) | Reinstate (+) | Expel (-) | DelAdj (-) | Died (-) | AddAdj (+) | Active Members At-End |
| Knights Templar | 2,381 | +108 | -156 | +116 | -45 | +8 | | | -70 | | 2,342 |
| Indiana | 2,381 | +108 | -156 | +116 | -45 | +8 | | | -70 | | 2,342 |
| 1 - Raper | 46 | | -2 | | | | | | -2 | | 42 |
| 2 - Baldwin | 77 | +6 | -3 | +3 | -2 | +1 | | | -1 | | 81 |
| 4 - Fort Wayne | 116 | +7 | -3 | +2 | -2 | +2 | | | -2 | | 120 |
| 5 - New Albany | 82 | +3 | -2 | +1 | -2 | | | | -3 | | 79 |
| 8 - Richmond | 58 | | | | -1 | | | | -3 | | 54 |
| 12 - La Porte | 99 | +4 | -3 | +2 | | | | | -4 | | 98 |
| 14 - Columbus | 117 | | | +1 | | | | | -3 | | 115 |
| 15 - LaValette | 98 | +3 | -1 | | | | | | -4 | | 96 |
| 16 - Terre Haute | 82 | +3 | -3 | +25 | | | | | -1 | | 106 |
| 19 - Apollo | 47 | | | | | | | | -1 | | 46 |
| 20 - Vincennes | 56 | | | | | | | | | | 56 |
| 21 - Grant County | 50 | +16 | -1 | +1 | -1 | | | | | | 65 |
| 25 - Crawfordsville | 46 | +4 | | | | +1 | | | -3 | | 48 |
| 28 - Valparaiso | 134 | +14 | -6 | +63 | -8 | +1 | | | -4 | | 194 |
| 29 - Frankfort | 118 | +3 | | +1 | | | | | -6 | | 116 |
| 31 - Elkhart | 55 | +3 | -4 | +1 | | | | | | | 55 |
| 32 - Anderson | 84 | +7 | -3 | +1 | -4 | | | | -4 | | 81 |
| 35 - Huntington | 36 | | | | -1 | | | | -2 | | 33 |
| 36 - Kokomo | 47 | | | | | | | | -1 | | 46 |
| 39 - Greenfield | 163 | +1 | -2 | +3 | -1 | | | | -4 | | 160 |
| 42 - Bedford | 70 | +6 | -1 | +1 | | +1 | | | -2 | | 75 |
| 45 - Angola | 59 | +2 | -2 | | | | | | | | 59 |
| 61 - Noblesville | 37 | +2 | -1 | +1 | | | | | | | 39 |
| 62 - Prather | 221 | +11 | -17 | +1 | -18 | | | | -3 | | 195 |
| 63 - Bloomington | 86 | +3 | -4 | | -2 | +1 | | | -8 | | 76 |
| 64 - Wright | 38 | +2 | -1 | | | | | | | | 39 |
| 65 - William G. Bray | 74 | +8 | -7 | | -3 | +1 | | | -3 | | 70 |
| 68 - Greene County | 36 | | | | | | | | -2 | | 34 |
| 500 - Lawrence V. Kaminsky | 56 | | | +9 | | | | | -1 | | 64 |
| { 11 - Greencastle} | 30 | | -28 | | | | | | -2 | | 0 |
| { 57 - Elbert H. Gary} | 63 | | -62 | | | | | | -1 | | 0 |

The green highlights are Commanderies that had increases from Knightings and Affiliations and not from consolidations. If Valparaiso and Terre Haute had not had the consolidations, they would have each had a net loss for the year.

As you can see, we were within 39 Sir Knights of breaking even for the year. We had 7 Commandries that had an increase in membership. These are all encouraging signs. We just need to find a way of stopping the Demits and Suspension.

As you can see our Demits are over twice that of deaths. We cannot do anything about deaths, but we can do something about Demits.

Why are most Sir Knights Demitting? That is a good question, I think in most cases it is a lack of activities from the local York Rite Bodies. Why should they devote their time in something when we do not do anything to hold their interest.

The Bodies of the York Rite have some very great philanthropic causes. These should be addressed by the local bodies. We are encouraged to hold Table Chapters, Table Councils and Templar Boards. These are great opportunities to raise awareness of these great works.

At the same time, we should be doing more family activities. Go to ball games or an amusement park. Do SOMETHING.

Two new things for this Office. Starting this year 2025, we will be no longer remitting dues owed to the Grand Commandery, except for 50 Year Members. If a local Commandery remits the dues of a Sir Knight, you will still owe his dues to the Grand Commandery. This is in part because we, the Grand Commandery, still pays those dues to the Grand Encampment. As a result, the Grand Commandery loses twice. Once when we do not receive the dues from the local Commandery and second time when we have to pay the Grand Encampment for that same Sir Knight.

The second new thing will be the Star Recorder of the Year. In the past it was the Grand Recorder who would be choosing who would be winning this award, starting next year, if you feel that your Recorder is worthy of this award, you will need to submit a form to this office as to why you feel he is the BEST Recorder in the State. This form will be on the website.

I am looking forward to working with each and every one of you. Please give me a little time to get my feet under me, and I will do my best to serve you.

Fraternally,

Lawrence J. Williams, PGC, KCT
Grand Recorder

Grand Commandery Masonic Youth Final Report 2024-2025

To Sir Knight Randy J. Darling, REGC, Grand Commandery Officers and Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of Indiana All,

The Masonic Youth Groups of Indiana, DeMolay, Job's Daughters and the Rainbow Girls all are working on putting together their 2024-25 Summer Sessions.

Masonic Youth 2024-2025 Sessions

Indiana DeMolay will hold their Conclave June 27th-30th at Wabash College in Crawfordsville. **Job's Daughters of Indiana** will hold their Grand Bethel Session June 19th-22nd at Huntington University **Rainbow for Girls in Indiana** will hold their Grand Assembly July 10th-12th at The Seasons in Nashville

Job's Daughters of Indiana held their 2024-2025 Grand Session at The Seasons in Nashville, IN on June 20th through June 23rd. Grand Bethel Honored Queen Mrs. Cheyenne Shriner, Grand-Daughter of Sir Knight Philip Whisner, PGC was elected and installed with a Arch of Steel by the Sir Knights of Indiana as the Grand Bethel Honored Queen for 2024-25. August 11th the Miss Indiana and Jr Miss Indiana Pageant was held at Mt. Moriah Lodge in Anderson with Miss Sydney elected as Miss Indiana Job's Daughter and Miss Hailey was elected as Jr. Miss Indiana. At the Job's Daughters Supreme Session in August, Indiana Job's Daughters own Ms

Annabelle Hadley passed her crown down as she had completed her year as Miss International Job's Daughters for 2023-2024 and then her Mother, Ms Jamie Yeadon was elected and installed as the Supreme Marshal of Job's Daughters International. October 5th Indiana Job's Daughters also celebrated their 100th Anniversary with a Gala held at the Scottish Rite in Indianapolis. Indiana Job's Daughters has done an outstanding job of helping Bethels in Kentucky and serving as Surrogate Grand Bethel thus forming INKY as they are better known as!

Indiana DeMolay held their 2024-2025 State Conclave at Wabash College June 27th through 30th with Sir Knight Randal Ellington, PGC and Sir Knight Randy Darling, REGC in attendance. At State Master Councilor Owen V.'s Outgoing Banquet, Sir Knight Randal Ellington, PGC was honored as the recipient of the 2023-24 Indiana DeMolay Masonic Leader of the Year. Brother Devon A. of Speedway Chapter was installed as the 95th State Master Councilor, During this past year, State Master Councilor Owen V. 23/24 also campaigned for the office of International DeMolay Congress Secretary and was then appointed as the Grand 6th Preceptor of DeMolay International. At the 23-24 Indiana DeMolay Conclave, an initiation was held for 9 new DeMolay's at Montgomery Lodge in Crawfordsville home of Crawfordsville Commandery #25, the Crawfordsville York Rite let the DeMolay Cast use their Degree Costumes for DeMolay Degree. Indiana DeMolay also has reconstituted George Rogers Clark Chapter in New Albany and Indianapolis Chapter aka Indiana's Mother Chapter in Indianapolis. Members of Jerry Burns Chapter appeared on WTWO in Terre Haute in August promoting DeMolay. Fort Wayne Chapter celebrated their 100th Anniversary in February 2025 and Indiana DeMolay will hold their Conclave for 2024/25 June 26-29th at Wabash College in Crawfordsville. At the 2025 Sweetheart Dance held at the Scottish Rite in Indianapolis SK Randal Ellington, PGC had the honor of escorting State Master Councilor Devon, Grand Worth Advisor Serenity and GBHQ Cheyene Shriner under an Arch of Steel led by Sir Knight Carson Smith and several Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery and Commanderies in Indiana.

The International Rainbow for Girls in Indiana held their 2023-2024 Grand Assembly July 6th through the 9th at The Seasons in Nashville, IN with Grand Worthy Advisor Miss Sophia M. daughter of Sir Knight Rocky Meyers presiding. Sir Knight Randy Darling, REGC had the honor of escorting Miss Sophia under an Arch of Steel at the Opening Session. Thank you to all the Sir Knights who were in attendance. Sir Knight Randal Ellington, PGC was an honored recipient of the Grand Cross of Color. Miss Serenity S. was Elected as the Grand Worthy Advisor for 2024-2025 During the 2023-2024 Grand Session held in Hampton Virginia in July Miss Sophia had the serving as the Acting Supreme Hope.

It isn't every year that you have a member of Each of your Masonic Youth Organizations represented at their respective International Grand Sessions. Congratulations Annabelle, Owen, Sophia and Jamie for representing the State of Indiana and for Showing them that OUR Masonic Youth of Indiana is the BEST!

In Closing I would like to leave you with a quote from "Dad" Frank Sherman Land, Founder of the Order of DeMolay in 1919. "How lonely it must be for a boy not to have a man to talk with

or a man to provide some type of inspiration and direction." This is why "Dad" Land decided there was a need for an organization where boys would have the opportunity to associate with other boys and a place, they could share common interests, learn responsibility and other skills that would benefit them throughout their lives. Please keep this quote in mind as you journey around the State of Indiana and might approach one of our Masonic Youths and I encourage you to attend a Masonic Youth Meeting or Activity in the future and become active and please support our Masonic Youth as these Young Adults are our direct Life Line!

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

Respectfully Submitted in Christian Masonry,

Dad and Sir Knight Randal P. Ellington, KCT, GPE, PGC – Chairman

2024-25 Grand Commandery Membership Committee Report

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, Grand Recorder, Grand Commandery Officers, Deputy Battalion Commanders, Sir Knights:

Historically, Indiana is the fifth largest Masonic jurisdiction in the United States behind New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Texas. Indiana Freemasonry reached its highest Total Membership in 1957. In 1957 there were 185,000 Freemasons belonging to 549 lodges in the state of Indiana, representing an average of 330 members per Lodge.

In 2018, the year of our Bicentennial, there were 48,000 Freemasons belonging to 377 lodges in the state of Indiana, representing an average of 130 members per Lodge. If you are doing the math, Indiana Freemasonry has experienced a 75% reduction in membership in the sixty years between 1957 and 2018, and is now 25% or one fourth of its former size.

At present we are losing approximately 2,000 members a year to deaths and demits. It has been estimated that, in the last eighteen years, membership in the Grand Lodge of Indiana has dropped from less than 75,000 to less than 40,000, and that, if our current trajectory remains unchanged, Masonic membership in Indiana will drop to less than 12,000 in the next eighteen years. Since its inception, the Grand Commandery of Indiana has designated sixty-eight charters.

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1850 Raper No. 1 | 1875 Crawfordsville No. 25 | 1905 Rushville No. 49 |
| 1853 Baldwin No. 2 | 1875 Plymouth No. 26 | 1905 Goshen No. 50 |
| 1853 Lafayette No. 3 | 1875 Jeffersonville No. 27 | 1906 Mishawaka No. 51 |
| 1853 Ft. Wayne No. 4 | 1876 Valparaiso No. 28 | 1907 Tipton No. 52 |
| 1855 New Albany No. 5 | 1881 Frankfort No. 29 | 1907 Winchester No. 53 |

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1855 Connersville No. 6 | 1884 Michigan City No. 30 | 1907 Sullivan No. 54 |
| 1858 Bedford No. 7 | 1884 Elkhart No. 31 | 1908 Martinsville No. 55 |
| 1865 Richmond No. 8 | 1885 Anderson No. 32 | 1910 Seymour No. 56 |
| 1874 Knightstown No. 9 | 1890 Washington No. 33 | 1914 E.H. Gary No. 57 |
| 1868 Warsaw No. 10 | 1891 Columbia City No. 34 | 1914 East Chicago No. 58 |
| 1868 Greencastle No. 11 | 1892 Huntington No. 35 | 1920 Greensburg No. 59 |
| 1868 La Porte No.12 | 1892 Kokomo No. 36 | 1921 Peru No. 60 |
| 1868 South Bend No. 13 | 1893 Wabash No. 37 | 1921 Noblesville No. 61 |
| 1868 Columbus No. 14 | 1895 Bluffton No. 38 | 1923 De Molay No. 62 |
| 1868 La Valette No. 15 | 1897 Greenfield No. 39 | Oriental No. 62 |
| 1868 Terre Haute No. 16 | 1897 Delphi No. 40 | Trinity No. 62 |
| 1869 Aurora No. 17 | 1898 Hammond No. 41 | Prather No. 62 |
| 1869 Muncie No. 18 | 1899 Bedford No. 42 | 1925 Bloomington No. 63 |
| 1869 Apollo No. 19 | 1899 Lebanon No. 43 | 1988 Wright No. 64 |
| 1869 Vincennes No. 20 | 1900 New Castle No. 44 | 1992 Wm. G. Bray No. 65 |
| 1871 Grant County No. 21 | 1902 Angola No. 45 | 1993 H.W. Matthewson No. 66 |
| 1871 Madison No. 22 | 1903 Princeton No. 46 | 1994 Lawrence No. 67 |
| 1871 Johnson County No. 23 | 1903 Brazil No. 47 | H.E. Lackey No. 67 |
| 1873 St. John No. 24 | 1903 Clinton No. 48 | 2017 Greene County No. 68 |

20th Century Membership in Ten (10) Year Increments 1950 – 2000

| Year | Grand Commander | Commanderies | Sir Knights |
|------|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1950 | Howard F. Christner ☩ | 60 Chartered | 11,573 Total |
| 1960 | Joseph R. Erb ☩ | 60 Chartered | 13,400 Total |
| 1970 | K. Edwin Applegate ☩ | 58 Chartered | 11,874 Total |
| 1980 | Ernest G. Cunningham ☩ | 54 Chartered | 10,431 Total |
| 1990 | John V. Stevens | 53 Chartered | 7,951 Total |
| 2000 | Henry E. LaHurreau ☩ | 51 Chartered | 5,861 Total |

21st Century Membership in Four (4) Year Increments 2004 – 2024

| Year | Grand Commander | Commanderies | Sir Knights |
|------|----------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 2004 | George A. Ingles Jr. | 46 Chartered | 5,275 Total |
| 2008 | Andrew R. Jackson | 44 Chartered | 4,425 Total |
| 2012 | Paul A. Cole ☩ | 39 Chartered | 3,796 Total |
| 2016 | James A. Bolinger | 36 Chartered | 3,170 Total |
| 2020 | Michael F. Robbins | 33 Chartered | 2,782 Total |
| 2024 | Randal P. Ellington | 31 Chartered | 2,384 Dual/Plural |

In 1960, there were sixty chartered Commanderies. The December 2024 Edition of the *Indiana Red Book York Rite Leadership Directory* lists thirty chartered Commanderies.

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1850 Raper No. 1 | 1869 Apollo No. 19 | 1897 Greenfield No. 39 |
| 1853 Baldwin No. 2 | 1869 Vincennes No. 20 | 1899 Bedford No. 42 |
| 1853 Ft. Wayne No. 4 | 1871 Grant County No. 21 | 1902 Angola No. 45 |
| 1855 New Albany No. 5 | 1875 Crawfordsville No. 25 | 1914 E.H. Gary No. 57 |
| 1865 Richmond No. 8 | 1876 Valparaiso No. 28 | 1921 Noblesville No. 61 |
| 1868 Greencastle No. 11 | 1881 Frankfort No. 29 | 1923 Prather No. 62 |
| 1868 La Porte No. 12 | 1884 Elkhart No. 31 | 1925 Bloomington No. 63 |
| 1868 Columbus No. 14 | 1885 Anderson No. 32 | 1988 Wright No. 64 |
| 1868 La Valette No. 15 | 1892 Huntington No. 35 | 1992 Wm. G. Bray No. 65 |
| 1868 Terre Haute No. 16 | 1892 Kokomo No. 36 | 2017 Greene County No. 68 |

But E.H. Gary Commandery No. 57 is merging with Valparaiso Commandery No. 28, Huntington Commandery No. 35 is merging with Apollo Commandery No. 19, and Greencastle Commandery No. 11 is merging with Terre Haute Commandery No. 16, which leaves twenty-seven chartered Commanderies. Of those twenty-seven chartered Commanderies, four of the five original Encampments, now Commanderies, that were organized 170 years ago in 1854 as the Grand Encampment of Indiana, now the Grand Commandery of Indiana, remain.

In 1960, fourteen drill teams competed at the Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Indiana, including two “A” Teams, five “B” Teams, six “C” Teams, and one “D” Team. Of the fourteen Commanderies represented, six remain, while eight have surrendered their charter and/or merged with other Commanderies.

Class “A” Drill – 31 Sir Knights Total

1. Raper Commandery No. 1
2. Knightstown Commandery No. 9

Class “B” Drill – 21 Sir Knights Total

1. Muncie Commandery No. 18
2. New Castle Commandery No. 44
3. Fort Wayne Commandery No. 4
4. Lafayette Commandery No. 3
5. Oriental (De Molay) Commandery No. 62

Class “C” Drill – 15 Sir Knights Total

1. Greenfield Commandery No. 39
2. E.H. Gary Commandery No. 57
3. Richmond Commandery No. 8
4. Marion Commandery No. 21
5. South Bend Commandery No. 13
6. St. John Commandery No. 24

Class “D” Drill – 07 Sir Knights Total

1. Baldwin Commandery No. 2

In 2024, three drill teams, comprised of representatives of multiple Commanderies, participated in the Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Indiana, with one “C” Team organized by Raper Commandery No. 1, which drilled as an “A” Team in 1960, and two “D” Teams organized by Baldwin Commandery No. 2 and Greenfield Commandery No. 39.

Class “C” Drill – 15 Sir Knights Total

1. Raper Commandery No. 1

Class “D” Drill – 07 Sir Knights Total

1. Baldwin Commandery No. 2

2. Greenfield Commandery No. 39

It is frequently reported that membership in the Knights Templar has been, as is the case with all of our Masonic Bodies, decreasing since 1969.

In an effort to slow the decline, recruitment programs have been developed that have included everything from brochures, to posters, to DVD’s, to window decals.

Both the Grand Encampment, and the Grand Commandery, have incentivized new member recruitment efforts by offering medals, cordons, and embroidered jackets.

The programs developed have enjoyed varying degrees of success, but the fact of the matter is that deaths and demits continue to thwart our efforts to increase membership.

Halting our decline and maintaining and increasing our membership requires a three-fold approach that emphasizes recruitment, retention, and restoration.

By improving our communication, by every means available to us, and by meeting, and exceeding, the expectations of our Sir Knights, we can significantly reduce our demits.

To reach a digital generation that lives online, we must communicate as they do, through frequent email, interactive websites, and social media, including Facebook and Instagram.

If all that our Sir Knights ever receive from their Commandery is a dues statement, our younger members, in particular, will continue to leave, and our Commanderies will fold.

Unlike the Chapter and the Council, which are derivatives of Ancient Craft Masonry, the Commandery has a language, usages and practices that are peculiar to Templary.

While we recognize our position as one part of the York Rite, the unique aspects of Templary create a singular identity, and serve to foster pride of membership.

And there are Commanderies that draw Sir Knights from other Commanderies, by way of affiliation or transfer, due to their emphasis upon maintaining “a Templar culture”.

To paraphrase Dwight L. Smith, in *Whither Are We Traveling*, “Let’s try Templary.”

Are your new Sir Knights given the Grand Encampment’s new member packet?

Are your new Sir Knights given the links to our York Rite websites?

Are your new Sir Knights given a mentor and assigned a role or task, large or small?

“Let’s try Templary.”

Do your Sir Knights have their own copy of the official ritual?

Do your Sir Knights have their own copy of the latest revision of the tactics?

Do your Sir Knights have their own copy of the officer's manual?"

"Let's try Templary."

Do you open your Commandery monthly?

Do you open your Commandery monthly, and in uniform?

Do you open your Commandery monthly, and in uniform, with rehearsal of duties?

"Let's try Templary."

Do your Sir Knights have well maintained uniforms, and do they wear them correctly?

Do your Sir Knights understand Templar protocol?

Do your Sir Knights know their sword arm from their bridle arm?

"Let's try Templary."

Do you have a program for Templar education, ancient and modern?

Do you have a drill team and, if not, are you capable of attempting a pass in review?

Do you have a Beauceant, or a ladies auxiliary, or social activities?

"Let's try Templary."

Do your Sir Knights go to the Blue Lodge to present the United States flag?

Do your Sir Knights go to the Blue Lodge to present the York Rite?

Do your Sir Knights go to the Blue Lodge to present the Commandery?

"Let's try Templary."

Do your members believe that being a Templar is something special?

Do your members believe that being a Templar is simply a completion of the York Rite?

Do your members believe that being a Templar is just one more dues card?

"Let's try Templary."

Having exalted a Royal Arch Mason, greeted him as a Royal & Select Master, dubbed and created him as a Knight of the Temple, we allow him to demit, without a word.

When we are able to provide our Sir Knights with a meaningful fraternal experience, we can go so far as to reach out to former members and draw them back into our midst.

"Out of every one hundred men they send me, eighty of them are nothing but targets. Ten of them shouldn't even be here. Out of the ten that are left, nine are real fighters, and we are lucky to have them, for they the battle make. Ah, but one, one is a warrior, and I must find him, for he will bring the others back, and he the battle wins."

– Heraclitus of Ephesus

We must acknowledge, without apology, that Templary at every level, was, is, and shall remain, for the foreseeable future, the most costly body to which one may belong.

"There is nothing in the world that some man cannot make a little worse, and sell a little cheaper, and he who considers price only is that man's lawful prey."

– John Ruskin

We must not, in the pursuit of our objectives, be tempted to lower our standards, or be seduced by the notion that bigger is better. Bigger is not better. Better is better, and who knows, if we get better, we might just get bigger.

Courteously,

Sir Knight Carson C. Smith, PC, KCT, KTCH, Chairman

Sir Knight Brian C. Lewis, PC, KCT, KTCH

Sir Knight John A. Bridegroom, PC, KCT

2024-25 Grand Commandery Membership Committee

Necrology Report will be presented at the Grand Conclave

Patriotic Activities Committee Report

2024-2025

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

Here is the Patriotic Activities Report 2024 - 2025

May 23, 2024, Baldwin Commandery No. 2 presented and folded the flag for the Shelby County Memorial Service as well as presenting the POW/MIA table.

May 25, 2024, Richmond Commandery No. 8 held memorial services at Earlham Cemetery.

May 27, 2024, New Albany and Bedford Commanderies marched in the New Albany Memorial Day parade.

June 14, 2024, Richmond Commandery No. 8 provided a flag ceremony at Connersville Eastern Star.

July 13, 2024, Richmond Commandery No. 8 provided a York Rite video to Webb Lodge in Richmond, IN.

September 8, 2024, The Grand Commandery participated in the dedication of the Veteran's Memorial at the Indiana Masonic Home and carried the colors in the parade around the circle later that day.

November 11, 2024, The Veteran's Day Program at the Indiana Masonic Home was well attended. Several Sir Knights were in attendance.

December 2, 2024, Grant County Commandery No. 21 did the Flag Presentation at Montpelier Lodge No. 600 in Montpelier, IN.

These are all of the Patriotic Events that have been submitted to me for 2024 - 2025 year.

Courteously,

Sir Knight John R. Freeland
Grand Warder

Grand Commandery Holy Land Pilgrimage Final Report 2024-2025

To Sir Knight Randy J. Darling, REGC, Grand Commandery Officers and Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of Indiana All,

The Holy Land Pilgrimage Ministry Program did not receive any applications as of September 30th 2024 and have no ministers in waiting at this time. Three Sir Knights requested applications for their pastors last year of which information was provided to them along with instructions and application deadlines. Each Sir Knight that requested applications contacted their pastors and each decided they would wait until the following year to turn in their applications, due to the situation in the Middle East. It was communicated to those interested Sir Knights that the Grand Encampment would provide new applications each year with updated pricing around March or shortly after the East Central conference.

On January 4, 2025, Emmett Mills of the Grand Encampment was contacted and requested if any new updated information regarding scheduling of the 2025 Holy Land Pilgrimage Ministry Program was available that could be shared with our Indiana Commandry's. Sir Knight Mills offered the following: The February 2025 trip is definitely off and rescheduled for February 9th to the 19th of 2026 for trip A and February 23rd to March 5th for trip B. Sir Knight Mills also stated that things were looking up in Israel as far as tourism was concerned and that the Grand Encampment would be sending out new registration information as the trip gets closer depending, of course, on the situation regarding hostilities.

The Holy Land Pilgrimage Committee will continue to keep the Commandry's of Indiana updated as information becomes available.

Respectfully submitted in Christian Masonry,

Sir Knight Randal P. Ellington, KCT, GPE, PGC - Chairman

Sir Knight Dan Patterson, GPE

Sir Knight Barry Clouser, GPE

Report for Public Relations

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

The Public Relations Committee is pleased to submit the following report on its activities for the year.

Community Engagement:

- The Grand Commandery has actively participated in various events, forming lines for youth groups and other appendant bodies. These initiatives foster positive relationships and promote the values of Freemasonry.
- Information tables were set up at the Annual Communication, the Fall Festival at Compass Park/Masonic Home and Founders Day. These events provided opportunities to engage with the public, distribute informational materials, and answer questions about Commandery.

Digital Presence:

Several members of the Grand Commandery have been instrumental in maintaining an active social media presence. By sharing updates, photos, and event information, we have successfully reached a wider audience and generated interest in our organization.

Future Goals:

To further enhance our public relations efforts, the Committee will focus on the following:

- **Expanding Social Media Reach:** Implementing targeted social media campaigns to attract new followers and increase engagement.
- **Collaborating with Other Masonic Bodies:** Partnering with other Masonic organizations to organize joint public relations initiatives.

By prioritizing these goals, the Public Relations Committee aims to strengthen the public image of the Grand Commandery of Indiana and attract new members.

Courteously,

Mark A. Elder
Grand Standard Bearer
Battalion VI Commander

Ritual Competition Annual Report

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

The annual ritual competition was held at the 170th 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, Ode to the Skull, Flag Lecture, and a portion of the Warder's part.

There were 9 sir knights who registered for the competition who made this past competition a success. We feel that more Sir Knights around the state are starting to take interest in the Ritual Competition. There will be a ritual competition held in conjunction with the 171st annual conclave with the same categories as the last competition. We will continue to support and promote ritual competition.

Courteously,

Joseph Sparks, VEDGC – Chair
Jonathan McCracken, GCG
Mark Elder, GStB
Jeffery Prairie, GSwB

Ritual and Tactics Report 2024 - 2025

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

The Committee on Ritual and Tactics has nothing to report currently.

Courteously,
Jon McCracken, GCG – Chair
Phillip Whisner, PGC, KCT
Dathan Reed, GSW
Mark Elder, GSwB

Knight Templar Eye Foundation
2024/2025 Final Report

March 11, 2025

To: REGC Randy Darling & the Officers of the Grand Commandery

Subject: Knights Templar Eye Foundation State Report

I am happy to report that the Sir Knights of Indiana have donated \$32,379.24 to the Eye Foundation from 04/01/2024 to date.

As of the date of this report, there are 22 Members who are in the Grand Commander's Club and 53 members who are in the Grand Master's Club.

However, out of a total of 2,366 members, we only have 917 members who have a Life Sponsorship or an exemption from the assessment for the Eye Foundation. That leaves 1,449 members who are not Life Sponsors. REPGC Whisner made a challenge for each Commandery to become 100%, it appears that we are a long way from that goal.

To date we have only one (1) Commandery that is 100% Life Sponsor and that is Angola #45. Congratulations on achieving this goal.

There are two (2) Commanderies that are at 88% and those are Raper #1 and Wm. G. Bray #65. With a few more donations you will also be at 100%.

After looking at the donations of the members, I see that there are many Sir Knights who have multiple Life Sponsorships. For those that have more than one Sponsorship, may I suggest that you in the future purchase a Life Sponsorship for a Sir Knight who may not be able to afford one on his own. This way you can still get the tax deduction, and you can increase the participation in the Life Sponsorship program for your Commandery.

For those of you who are in the Grand Commander or Grand Master Clubs, those donations do not count towards the Life Sponsorship Program, these are separate programs. By the same token, multiple Life Sponsorships do not count toward the Grand Commander or Grand Master Clubs.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC
State Chairman Eye Foundation.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS COMMITTEE

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

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

Submitted for the Committee

Steve J. Barton, PGC PDC

By-laws Committee Annual Report

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

Your Dias Officers along with the Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery has received, carefully reviewed and approved by-laws changes from the following Commanderies: Prather Commandery #62, Anderson Commandery #32, Bedford Commandery #42, Elkhart Commandery #31, and Raper Commandery #1.

Prather Commandery #62 modified Article II Section I to read: Stated Conclaves shall be held on the first Monday of the Months of February, April, June, August, October, and December at 6:30 P.M. EST concurrently with Prather Chapter #157 and Prather Council #100.

Anderson Commandery #32 modified Article XII Section I to read: Anderson Commandery #32 will hold their stated meetings with Anderson Chapter #52 and/or Anderson Council #69 each month.

Bedford Commandery #42 had changed several articles. They are as follows: Article III Section 1 was modified to remove Guards which were listed as officers. Article IV Section 2 was changed to Seven elected officers, removing the Prelate. Article VI Section 8 added an Assistant Recorder. Article XII Section 1 approves the private purchase and the use of the Templar Apron.

Elkhart Commandery #31 modified Article II Section 1 to read: Stated Conclaves shall be held on the First Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm.

Raper Commandery #1 modified Article V Section 4 to read: His compensation shall be upon request, \$25.00 per year. Article V Section 5 to read: His compensation shall be, upon request, \$100.00 per year. Raper Commandery also modified Article VI Section 4 to add: Thirty dollars of this fee will be directed to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation to be applied to a life membership.

Baldwin Commandery #2 modified Article II section 1 to read: Stated Conclaves shall be held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 o'clock pm, in conjunction with the Stated meetings of

Shelby Chapter #20 and Emil L Steffy #3. Baldwin also modified Article II Section 2 to read: The Stated Conclave in November shall be the Annual Conclave for the Election of Officers.

Crawfordsville Commandery 25 modified Article II Section 1 to read: Stated Conclaves shall be held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 o'clock pm EST. Dark in the months of July & August.

LaPorte Commandery #12 modified Article II Section 2 to read: In the event of inclement weather, Natural Disasters or a National Holiday falling on the date of our stated Conclave, the stated Conclave will be moved to the 3rd Thursday of the month starting at 6:00 pm Central time.

Courteously,

Joseph L Sparks, VEDGC – Chair
Dominic Hamblin, GG
Edward Fodrea, PGC, KCT, GR

Indiana Knights Templar Grand Conclave 2025 **Competitive Drill Committee Report**

Grand Commander, Grand Officers, and Sir Knights,

At the time of composing this report, the committee is aware of only one team practicing for the Grand Conclave drill competition or exhibition as it may be.

Raper Commandery No. 1 has been practicing since January and does plan on fielding a Class D team. Greenfield Commandery No. 39 does not plan on fielding a team this year as it has done for the past several years. The disposition of Baldwin Commandery No. 2 is unknown at the writing of this report.

There has been some concern about the scheduling of the drills on a Friday, as that might prevent those who work from participating.

Respectively submitted,

William Short, GP, KTCH- Chair
Randy J. Darling, REGC
David Miller, PC
Steve Barton, PGC, PDC, KCT

Addendum:

I have received word that Greenfield Commandery No. 39 and Baldwin Commander are planning on fielding Class “D” teams.

CHARTERS AND DISPENSATION COMMITTEE

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Officers of the Grand Commandery, members of the Grand Commandery:

Consolidation of Elbert H. Gary #57 with Valparaiso #28.

Following procedures and a vote of both Commanderies the consolidation of Elbert H. Gary #57 with Valparaiso #28 was sent to the Grand Commander for approval. The merger was completed by the above named Commanderies on November 11, 2024. The the equipment of the Commandery has been moved to Valparaiso #28.

Lawrence J. Williams, KCT, PGC was the Special Deputy for this consolidation.

- No.1 **Special Dispensation Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery of Research U.D.**
- No. 2 **Special Dispensation Levant Preceptory**

are in proper order.

Fraternally Submitted

Steven J Barton, KCT, PGC

2024-25 Grand Commandery Educational Foundation Committee Report

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

The members of this committee held its first meeting in August 2024 at Hancock Lodge in Greenfield, IN. The main topics of discussion were possible changes we wanted to make to the scholarship application process and form for the upcoming season. The main takeaways were to update the form, simplify the process by removing the FAFSA report requirement, and to consider over the next months any additional changes we might want to propose to the Grand Commandery Laws at the 2025 Annual Conclave.

The scholarship application was updated with new contact information, noting the application due date of March 1, 2025, and streamlined in some of the questions being asked. The form was approved by the various members of the committee and submitted to the Grand Recorder for publication on the Grand Commandery website.

The committee received communication from Grand Encampment in February, reporting the status of the scholarship funds it holds in trust for our Grand Commandery. In 2024, we issued \$13,000 in scholarships, paid \$750 in brokerage fees, and earned just over \$26,000 in returns on our funds, bringing our beginning of 2025 total to just over \$239,000.

The committee received a total of 10 scholarship applications. We met in early March, again at

Hancock Lodge, to review each of the applications and make decisions on what awards we wanted to present. It was decided that each of the 10 applicants was qualified and in financial need, and each was approved for a \$1,500 scholarship for the upcoming school year. The total awarded was \$15,000.

The committee also decided that we would submit a change to the Laws of the Grand Commandery at the 2025 Annual Conclave, specifically to allow the committee to set the application due date each year. This change will allow more time to market/communicate the availability of the scholarship to our membership and more closely align with deadlines of other masonic scholarship programs within the state. This proposal was submitted to the Grand Recorder and the Jurisprudence Committee before the deadline to be considered.

The members of the committee thank the Grand Commandery for the opportunity to serve in this role and look forward to continuing this work in future years, helping future generations pursue their educational goals.

Fraternally,

Sir Knight Phillip Whisner, PGC, KCT, KTCH, Chairman

Sir Knight Robert Frazer, PGC, KCT, GT

Sir Knight Barry Clouser, GPE

2024-25 Grand Commandery Educational Foundation Committee

Financial Report – Will Presented at the Grand Conclave

2025 Budget

GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF INDIANA

| | | Accounting | Total |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|------------|---------------------------|
| <u>RECEIPTS</u> | 2228 | Number | Budget \$12.50 |
| Per Capita Dues - Indiana | 2228 members | | \$ 27,850.00 |
| Per Capita Dues - Grand Encampment | | | \$ 20,052.00 |
| Transfer from Life Membership Funds | | | \$ 1,212.50 |
| K. T. Eye Foundation Assessment | | | \$ 2,228.00 |
| Knighting Fees | | | \$ 2,000.00 |
| | | | |

| | | |
|---|------|-------------------------|
| Total Per Capita Assessments | 5200 | \$ 53,342.50 |
| Interest earned | 5310 | \$ - |
| Permanent Fund / Newby/Avery/ Vaght Donations | 4050 | \$ 5,000.00 |
| Transfer from Permanent Fund | 5407 | \$ 22,000.00 |
| DSA Payments | 5409 | \$ 1,500.00 |
| Grand Conclave Banquet Income | 5459 | \$ 15,000.00 |
| ITA | 5422 | \$ - |
| Miscellaneous | 5490 | \$ - |
| DeMolay Sword | 4041 | \$ - |
| Easter Sunrise trip | 4040 | \$ - |
| Newby Avery Banquet | 5480 | |
| Income Total | | \$ 96,842.50 |

DISBURSEMENTS

NON-DISCRETIONARY AND SPECIAL ACCOUNTS - 7300

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|----------------------------|
| Grand Encampment Per Capita | | \$ 20,052.00 |
| K.T. Eye Foundation | | \$ 2,228.00 |
| Grand Encampment Per-Capita Total | 7310 | \$ 18,387.00 |
| Refund of Per Capita | 7315 | \$ - |
| Triennial | 7320 | \$ 3,000.00 |
| Triennial Drill Team Travel | 7321 | \$ 250.00 |
| DISCRETIONARY | 7400 | ¹⁷⁵⁰ \$ - |
| Officers Expenses | 7410 | \$ - |

| | | |
|--|----------------------------|--------------|
| Grand Commander | 7411 | \$ 7,500.00 |
| Grand Recorder | 7412 | \$ 10,000.00 |
| KT Supplement | 7414 | \$ - |
| GIG Expenses | 7415 | \$ 1,500.00 |
| Grand Officers | 7416 | \$ 6,750.00 |
| Grand Commander's Contingency | 7417 | \$ 1,000.00 |
| web master | 7418 | \$ 250.00 |
| Awards 50 year Postage | 8140 | \$ 100.00 |
| 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 |
| Newby/Avery | 7555 | \$ 450.00 |
| BOND Insurance - Grand Recorder | 7570 | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Checks | 7580 | \$ - |
| Operation Supplies | 7601 | |
| Rituals & Shipping | 7620 | \$ 300.00 |
| Uniform | 7625 | \$ 500.00 |
| PGC Jewels New & Repairs | 7651 | \$ 800.00 |
| Jewels New & Repairs | 7652 | \$ - |
| Awards | Newby/Avery Plaques / Pins | \$ - |

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|------|---------------------|
| | 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 | \$ - |
| | Internet | 8130 | \$ 500.00 |
| | Outside Computer Services Web Host | 8131 | \$ 600.00 |
| | Computer Software | 8135 | \$ 750.00 |
| | Computer Hardware | 8136 | \$ 1,000.00 |
| | Office Equip Repair / Replace | 8137 | \$ 1,000.00 |
| | Postage | 8138 | \$ 300.00 |
| | Shipping & Postage | 8139 | \$ 500.00 |
| | Office Printing & Copying | 8170 | \$ 300.00 |
| | Red Book | 8175 | \$ 250.00 |
| Misc. | | 9510 | |
| | | | |
| Expense Total | | | \$ 96,480.00 |
| | | | |
| Surplus / (Deficit) | | | \$ 362.50 |

Trustee Report – Will be presented at the Grand Conclave

Grand Inspector General's Report

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

Every Commandery in this jurisdiction complied with General Order No. 1 and successfully completed their annual inspection. Numerous Commanderies are attempting to learn the ritual on their own and the progress is encouraging. Battalion Commanders and Deputy Battalion Commanders did an excellent job inspecting the Commanderies and their learning curve is improving each year. 2024-2025 showed a strong improvement among the Sir Knights of Indiana and their respective Commanderies.

Michael Robbins, PGC, GIG

Lawrence Williams, PGC, DGIG

William Short, KTCH, PC, DGIG

Jurisprudence Report

Right Eminent Grand Commander, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, Grand Commandery Officers and Sir Knight all,

Your Jurisprudence Committee has nothing to report at this time.

Michael Robbins, KCT, PGC, Chair

All Right Eminent Past Grand Commanders

2024 – 2025 Kight Templar Supplement End of Year Report

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

At the time of this report, I have nothing brought forth to this Committee.

Courteously submitted,

Dathan Reed, GSW – Chairman

Lanyard Cord Program **2024 – 2025 Final Report**

To: REGC Randy Darling

Date: March 11, 2025

Subject: Lanyard Cord Program

REGC Darling, Grand Commander Officers, Past Grand Commanders and Sir Knights all. As of the above date, there have been 108 Knightings since 04/01/2024. There have been 19 new cords awarded:

- 7 – White
- 4 – Silver
- 5 - Gold
- 2 – Red
- 1 – Red/White

I am also happy to report that there were 19 Top Line Signers.

Fraternally,

Lawrence Williams, KCT, PGC
Lanyard Cord Chairman

2024-25 Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery UD

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, Grand Recorder, Grand Commandery Officers, Deputy Battalion Commanders, Sir Knights:

The officers of Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery UD, acting as a Commandery of Research, hosted three (3) live presentations this year, providing Sir Knight Joseph L. Sparks, Recorder, with transcripts thereof.

Sir Knight John R. Freeland, Generalissimo, presented *Islam and the Rise of the Knights Templar* following Grand Commandery Officer Training in Fairland on Saturday, June 22, 2024.

Sir Knight Shamus J. Driver, Captain General, presented *The Development of the Order of Malta* following Prather Commandery All Order Day on Saturday, November 23, 2024.

Finally, Sir Knight Carson C. Smith, Eminent Commander, presented *The History of Raper Encampment and the Grand Commandery of Indiana* following the Grand Commandery Winter Meeting at the Horizon Convention Center in Muncie on Saturday, January 18, 2025.

Efforts to organize a pilgrimage to the gravesite of Rev. William H. Raper (1793 – 1848) at Wesleyan Cemetery in Cincinnati, Ohio, were abandoned due to lack of interest, establishing the

fact that our members are more likely to participate when we meet following other events.

Courteously,

Sir Knight Carson C. Smith, PC, KCT, KTCH, Eminent Commander

Sir Knight John R. Freeland, GS, Generalissimo

Sir Knight Shamus J. Driver, PC, Captain General

Sir Knight Joseph L. Sparks, VEDGC, KCT, Recorder

2024-25 Lawrence V. Kaminsky Commandery UD

2024 – 2025 Templar Uniform End of Year Report

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Officers of the Grand Commandery of Indiana &

Sir Knights all,

At the time of this report, we are awaiting guidance from the Grand Encampment on the wearing of the kilt that was approved this past Tri Annual in Salt Lake City, UT. When this guidance has been received, it will need to be looked at if Indiana will approve the wearing of such item as part of the uniform, and what the uniform consists of when wearing of this kilt option.

Courteously submitted,

Dathan Reed, GSW – Chairman

Triennial Report 2024 - 2025

The 69th Triennial was held in Salt Lake City from August 17th to 21st. A delegation from Indiana was in attendance which consisted of the Grand Commander, Deputy Grand Commander, Grand Generalissimo, and the Grand Captain General. Also, Past Grand Commanders Whisner, Fodera and Past Most Eminent Grand Master Vaught were in attendance. Several Sir Knights from Baldwin participated in the drill competition as well.

Each member of the delegation provided receipts for their expenses for travel, lodging and food and was reimbursed \$1,000.00 to cover these cost.

Elected to serve during the 69th Triennial were as follows:

SK David J. Kussman was elected as the 61st Most Eminent Grand Master

SK Jeffrey A. Bolstad as the Right Eminent Grand Master

SK Jack M. Harper II as the Right Eminent Grand Generalissimo

SK James C. McGee as the Right Eminent Grand Captain General

SK Jay P. Kennedy as the East Central Department Commander

As of the writing of this report, the location for the 70th Triennial has not been released. When more information is available, the committee will start discussing plans for attending.

Courteously,

Jon McCracken, GCG – Chair

Dathan Reed, GSW

Scott Sacek, GJW

Unfinished Business Annual Report

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

Your committee on unfinished business currently has nothing to report.

Courteously,

Joseph L Sparks, VEDGC – Chair

Dominic Hamblin, GG

Proposed Legislation Changes

Proposed Amendment to Section 780: Educational Foundation Committee

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

The members of the Educational Foundation Committee would like to amend Section 780 of the Laws of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana to change the due date for scholarship applications from March 1st to a date to be determined by the committee each year. This change would help us our application due date with other masonic bodies within the state and would allow more time for students to submit their application each year.

Section 780 currently reads:

SECTION 780: The Educational Foundation Committee shall consist of five members to serve five-year terms of which one will expire each year, one member to be appointed each year at the time of Annual Conclave by the incoming Grand Commander. The Grand Commander serving will make appointments to fill any vacancies for the unexpired portion of the term and may replace any member of the Committee but shall not be a member of the Committee. It shall be the duty of this Committee to administer the business of the Educational Foundation in accordance with the rules and regulations established by the Grand Encampment Educational Foundation, and under the direction of the Grand Commandery.

Committee shall review applications for Scholarship grants for students attending an Indiana Credible College/University and request a distribution of the funds from the Grand Encampment. Student applicants must be a Daughter, Son, Granddaughter, Grandson of an Active Indiana Knight Templar. Applications are to be provided online and filled out and mailed to Committee Secretary by March 1st yearly. Stepchildren also fall into the qualified applicants. The Committee Chairman will report all actions to the Grand Conclave each year. *(April 2022).*

Going forward, Section 780 would read (with the proposed change **bold and underlined**):

SECTION 780: The Educational Foundation Committee shall consist of five members to serve five-year terms of which one will expire each year, one member to be appointed each year at the time of Annual Conclave by the incoming Grand Commander. The Grand Commander serving will make appointments to fill any vacancies for the unexpired portion of the term and may replace any member of the Committee but shall not be a member of the Committee. It shall be the duty of this Committee to administer the business of the Educational Foundation in accordance with the rules and regulations established by the Grand Encampment Educational Foundation, and under the direction of the Grand Commandery.

Committee shall review applications for Scholarship grants for students attending an Indiana Credible College/University and request a distribution of the funds from the Grand Encampment. Student applicants must be a Daughter, Son, Granddaughter, Grandson of an Active Indiana Knight Templar. Applications are to be provided online and filled out and mailed to Committee Secretary **on or before a date determined by the committee each year.** Stepchildren also fall into the qualified applicants. The Committee Chairman will report all actions to the Grand Conclave each year. *(April 2022).*

Submitted for consideration at the next Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana.

Fraternally,

SK Barry Allen Clouser, GPE, PC
Secretary
Educational Foundation Committee

Battalion Reports

Battalion #1 Final Report 2024 - 2025

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

Meetings:

I have attended each of my constituent commanderies multiple times within this battalion to address the specific issues affecting them. I maintain an open line of communication with all commanders and recorders, ensuring that any concerns or updates are promptly shared and addressed. This ongoing dialogue helps foster a collaborative and efficient working environment within the battalion.

Status of Battalion #1 Commanderies:

Laporte #12

This commandery is in excellent shape, and I have always been impressed with their capabilities. They are able to perform every role in all the orders. The leadership of Laporte is dedicated and strong, combined with that of the Past Grand Commandery Officers, creates a deep pool of knowledge. Their inspection scores are a testament to their high level of commitment. Suggestions to improve this Commandery are few. Just keep up the good work.

Valparaiso #28

This commandery is also in excellent condition. Their members are dedicated and knowledgeable, holding practice or orders every Monday, which is reflected in the quality of their work. They have performed 14 individual Order of the Temple ceremonies. Additionally, they display some of the best-in-class traits that other commanderies could learn from to improve themselves. They are best in class, for finding flaws are far and few as they continue to try new ideas and members pride themselves on learning.

Elkhart #31

This commandery is becoming a strong and capable unit, driven by their goal of conferring all the orders themselves. The leadership within this commandery is solid, and their commitment to hard work ensures they will continue to grow. I always look forward to visiting them and seeing their progress.

E.H. Gary #57

E.H Gary has chosen to merge with Valparaiso Your Rite.

Summary/Remarks:

Battalion #1 is in excellent condition, even with the merger. We are excited for the new year, eager to welcome and bring on new Sir Knights.

Courteously,

Scott A. Sacek
Grand Junior Warden
Battalion #1 Commander

Battalion II Year-End Report 2024-2025

To the REGC Randy Darling, VEDGC Joseph Sparks, the Officers of the Grand Commandery, the Past Grand Commanders, Sir Knights all. The state of Battalion II is a little different this year. But the Battalion is still trying to progress and grow even though the total number of Masonry continues to drop. We try to make sure that we grow in some way during each year. However, some years are more difficult than others. Now each Commandery, both ebbs and flows, it just depends on when it happens.

Fort Wayne Commandery #4: This Commandery has several new members amongst its ranks. And many of them have taken leadership roles in the Asylum. And they have joined the cast for our orders and are doing very well. I look forward to them continuing to get stronger. This Commandery did very well during the October Inspection despite having very new Sir Knights in key roles. They also had a live candidate who was Knighted during the inspection. After it was all done, he was extremely thankful for all the hard work that was done for him and how much he enjoyed the Order. It was an exciting day, and they are ready to continue to work and work hard at what they do. These members are the future of Fort Wayne.

Apollo Commandery #19: The members of this Commandery continues to get stronger. The leadership here is tough and fair. They hold their Sir Knights accountable and help when needed. The Inspection and reception went very well, and they had a new Sir Knight on this day. They scored very well. This group relishes the challenge of doing the Orders and doing them well. These Sir Knights are strong and always ready to work.

Huntington Commandery #35: This Commandery has become weaker over the years due to lack of participation by its members. We continue to strive to get new members and bring our current members back to the Asylum and get them involved. The Recorder sends out monthly reminders of the meetings and makes phone calls to gather members. For some reason we just can't get the room full like we used to have before Covid. We will continue fighting the good fight until we are back on track. There is some talk of dissolving into another Commandery and at time of print is just talk. This will continue to be monitored.

Angola Commandery #45: What can I say about these Sir Knights? This group is so strong that they make my job easy. They scored very well during their inspection and reception, but this is nothing new for Angola. This group works very well together and often have practice after meetings or on off nights. They continue to set an example of what a top-tier Commandery looks like. They have several new candidates with different progress within the York Rite and often to work to move these men forward. Before each Conclave they provide a meal and fellowship.

This helps with member retention I believe. I look forward to watching them get stronger and stronger. These Sir Knights step up every year for the annual Tri-State festival with Michigan and Ohio. This Commandery continues to bring pride to the state of Indiana.

The overall state of Battalion II is good with some work needed. But if we have dedicated Sir Knights it will continue to grow. I will continue to help in any way possible and get the Sir Knights of Indiana strong again in the Northeast part of the state.

Courteously,

Dominic J. Hamblin, GG

Battalion II Commander

Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Indiana

2024 – 2025 Battalion III End of Year Report

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

Battalion III consist of the following Commanderies: Grant County # 21, Anderson # 32, Kokomo # 36 and Noblesville # 61.

It has been an honor to be the Battalion Commander of Battalion III the past couple of years. As I move to Battalion II to be their Battalion Commander, I would like to express my love and thankfulness for having a great group of Sir Knights in Battalion III. With your many efforts and devotion, you all have a very bright future ahead.

The Sir Knights in Battalion III are thinking of new creative ways and to continue the momentum that they have built thus far in recruitment and maintaining our Sir Knights we have. Eminent Commanders and Records of Battalion III, I would like to say thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the hard work and continuous dedication to Templarly.

Grant County Commandery # 21 is very strong and continues to build. They conduct their own degree work and continues to bring in new members to their Commandery. Your love for the Craft is seen by all.

Anderson Commandery # 32 is continuing its efforts on membership and growing as a Commandery. They are doing Degree work as well as conferring the Mark Master Degree in Blue Lodges in their area and are ready to assist when needed by others. Keep up the great work Sir Knights.

Kokomo Commandery # 36 is continuing their efforts on membership and is getting better participation from their current members than they have had in the past. Several new Sir Knights fill their Commandery. The efforts and dedication are paying off!!

Noblesville Commandery # 61 are working hard and strive to get their members more active. They continue to build but are having difficulties in their numbers that show up to stated meetings. They have several new Sir Knights in their Commandery as well.

To my DBC's Andrew Bowman , Rober Kendall and Xen Prickett thank you for dedication and strong desire to improve the Craft and being part of this amazing adventure with me. Overall, I am excited to see these Commanderies pull together and help each other out the best they can. I am proud to serve all the Sir Knights of Battalion III !!

Courteously submitted,
Dathan Reed, GSW – Battalion III Commander

Battalion IV 2024 - 2025 Report

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Past Grand Commanders, Grand Commandery Offices, and Sir Knight all.

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

Greencastle Commandery No. 11 surrendered their charter and merged with Terre Haute Commandery No. 16. While we always hate to see a Commandery close, I do hope that the new members will attend Terre Haute going forward and help them thrive and grow.

Terre Haute Commandery No. 16 is doing well. They were able to do the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross in full form without needing to request help from other Commanderies for the first time in several years. I hope this is a sign of renewed strength and pride in their commandery.

Crawfordsville Commandery No. 25 continues to do great things. They are able to do the orders in house without having to ask for assistance and continue to grow and bring in new members. I have high expectations for Crawfordsville in the future and believe they will do even better next year.

Frankfort Commandery No. 29 is struggling at the moment. They were able to do the Order of Malta this year with minimal outside assistance. I continue to offer them assistance in anything they need and hope they will reach out to myself and the Grand Commandery next year if they need help or just to practice.

In conclusion, Battalion IV is doing well even before I got command of it. I expect next year to be even better.

Courteously,

Sir Knight John R. Freeland
Grand Warder
Battalion Commander of Battalion IV

Battalion V Final Report 2024-2025

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

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

Greenfield Commandery #39

This Commandery has Knighted 3 new knights this year and proud to have been there for their Order of Malta and Order of Temple. All Inspections were completed in the timely manner as required by the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Indiana. They were inspected on the Order of Malta. I have visited this Commandery several times. They are an enthusiastic group of men, that meet regularly for meeting and special events like their Pizza Boothe at their County Fair. They are very ready to bring new members into the organization and Support the Grand Commandery of Indiana. I feel this is a strong Commandery and able to perform orders without help.

Calvin Prather Commandery #62

This Commandery has Knighted 11 Knights this year and proud to have been there for the Order of Red Cross, Order of Malta and Order of Temple. All inspections were completed in a timely manner as required by the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Indiana. They were Inspected on the Order of Malta. I have visited this Commandery when they open on Commandery. This enthusiastic group of men, they host twice a year an all-day Classes to ensure that not only to bring Knights to their Commandery as well as any York Rite that need to get individuals through their Chapter, Council degrees and Knights. This Commandery schedules many events for their members throughout the year to make their membership very strong. This is a strong Commandery.

William G. Bray Commandery #65

This Commandery has Knighted 6 Knights, one affiliated and one reinstated this year. All inspections were completed in a timely manner as required by the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Indiana. This Commandery was inspected on the Order of Red Cross. They needed a lot of help but were able to perform. I am planning on meeting with this commandery meeting next year to assist as much as they will allow for their future inspections. This Commandery is Struggling but putting forth the needed to put on orders for Membership.

I would like to give special thanks to SK Vance Brewer and SK Josph Hedges on being my DBC this year and big thanks to SK Josph Sparks VEDGC for assisting me this year.

Courteously:

Jeffery W. Prairie GsB
Battalion V Commander

Report for Battalion VI

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

I am pleased to submit the following report on the activities of Battalion VI.

- **Raper Commandery No. 1:** Raper Commandery has two Companions progressing through the Council Degrees. Scheduling challenges has hampered the completion of these Degrees however, the Commandery is committed to completing these degrees in as soon as possible and advancing to the Commandery Orders. Raper Commandery has been actively involved in Grand Conclave activities, participating in both the drill team competition and the Ritual Competition. Raper Commandery is now under the leadership of Eminent Commander Earl Hopkins who I am confident will lead them well this year. I would like to thank Past Commander Shamus Driver for his service to the Commandery in 2024.
- **Baldwin Commandery No. 2:** Baldwin Commandery has experienced a membership increase of Sir Knights in 2024 and currently has several members starting their York Rite journey in 2025. Baldwin Commandery has demonstrated excellence in drill competition, achieving a fourth-place finish at the Triennial. Their dedication and hard work are commendable. Baldwin Commandery is now under the leadership of Eminent Commander Matthew McLaughlin. I would like to thank Past Commander Nathan Ratterman for his service to the Commandery in 2024.
- **Richmond Commandery No. 8:** Under the guidance of Eminent Commander Dennis Rigsby, Richmond Commandery maintains strong meeting attendance and actively recruits new members. However, the declining number of Blue Lodge activities in their area poses a challenge. The Commandery remains steadfast in its efforts to attract new members and sustain its vitality. At the beginning of 2025, Richmond received petitions for new members as well as affiliations. I see positive growth for Richmond in 2025. I would like to thank Eminent Commander Dennis Rigsby for his continued leadership in 2025.

All Commanderies in Battalion VI have successfully hosted Receptions honoring their Eminent Commanders. Inspections were conducted, with Baldwin Commandery having the opportunity to showcase Candidates progressing through the Commandery Orders. Raper and Richmond Commanderies utilized exemplars for their inspections.

While all Commanderies demonstrated a solid understanding of ritual and tactics, there is room for improvement in seamlessly integrating the two. Consistent practice and refinement will enhance the overall performance of each Commandery.

I extend my sincere gratitude to Deputy Battalion Commander Brian Hooten, Past Commander of Greenfield Commandery No. 39, for his invaluable support and contributions throughout the year.

Courteously,

Mark A. Elder
Grand Standard Bearer
Battalion VI Commander

Grand Commandery of Knight Templars of Indiana Battalion #7 Annual Report and Summary 2024 - 2025

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

New Albany # 5

New Albany Commandery held a couple of practices by themselves and a joint one with Columbus in preparation for their inspection. Attendance was very low, but the Sir Knights who showed up participated and learned tactics for the opening and the Order of the Temple. I encourage them to continue with their practices throughout the year and not just getting ready for their inspection. They marched in the Memorial Day parade in New Albany again this year and did one flag presentation for the year. Their average attendance has remained low for the year compared to past years. They Knighted two Sir Knights at their inspection in October.

Columbus # 14

Columbus held several practices throughout the summer with good attendance. They went over tactics, the sword manual, and the Order of the Temple. Parts were assigned early on. They did the opening with rehearsal of duties at their inspection themselves. Some of the parts were read, but the tactics part of the inspection had greatly improved since the first of the year. They are on the right path. Keep up the good work. Their attendance remains high at their stated conclaves, but their activity is still low. They need to find ways to improve in this area.

Bedford # 42

Bedford started the year off with no activity in the Commandery due to having candidates going through the Chapter and Council degrees. Mid-summer they started holding practices and

performing the first two orders on the candidates who were ready to go. They continued throughout the fall by Knighting several new members finishing at their inspection in November. They have gained eight new Sir Knights this year. Their new recorder is settling in and is starting to improve communication with their membership. They participated in the Memorial Day parade in New Albany again this year. Attendance has been high this year with the new members participating both in practices and the Orders.

Bloomington #63

Bloomington started the year doing Chapter degrees and got behind. They had two candidates going through. They did not have them ready to take their Order at the inspection, but did manage to get them through afterwards. Bloomington did participate in their inspection with Bedford. They also have a new recorder who is getting things straightened out and moving forward. Going forward they need to implement ideas to increase their activity which has remained low over the past year; however, attendance at their stated conclaves is holding steady.

Battalion #7 was well represented at the ITA held at Bedford Commandery. A very good presentation on our country's flag and the proper display/presentation. We also were instructed on the types of headwear and the guidelines to the uniforms in Indiana.

DBC, Jordan McCracken has done a really good job visiting and assisting commanderies in Battalion #7. He is very knowledgeable in tactics and rituals which assists commanderies in performing orders.

Courteously,
Lawrence Myers, GS
Battalion VIII Commander

Battalion VIII Report 2024 - 2025

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

Since taking over Battalion 8 at the beginning of August, I have visited with all of the Commanderies at least once. I have been warmly received and have had several good conversations with Sir Knights from each of the Commanderies in the battalion. All of the Commanderies have knighted new members this year. I am still getting to know them but am looking forward to spending some time with them.

LaValette # 15 Hosted their joint inspection with Wright Commandery in October. They had several Knights participate in the Order of the Temple and Reception. Most of them read their parts, but they were asking questions and seemed eager to learn. At their inspection they knighted 3 new members. Their attendance at their stated conclaves is good.

Vincennes # 20 I attended the joint inspection at Vincennes. Their attendance was good. They had a few knights participate. This was the only visit I had with Vincennes since taking over the

battalion. Over the past year they have had issues being able to open due to attendance. They have knighted 7 new knights this year. I look forward to visiting with them in the near future.

Wright # 64 At the joint inspection their members filled most of the cast. Some parts were read, but some were from memory. They performed the ritual well, but still need to work on the tactics. Attendance at their stated conclaves has been good. They have knighted two new knights this year.

Greene County # 68 They filled most of the cast at their joint inspection with Vincennes. They have several Sir Knights who performed the work from memory. They have been good to help at Bedford when they have been short-handed and other York Rite bodies as well. Attendance at their stated conclaves has been good. They have knighted one new knight this year.

Battalion 8 held their Battalion meeting after the ITA held in Bedford on February 22, 2025. All of the Commandery's were represented.

Courteously,
Jon McCracken, GCG
Battalion VIII Commander