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### **To the Sir Knights of Texas:**

If you enjoy good food, friendly competitions, and warm fellowship with other Sir Knights and their ladies, you don't want to miss the next Grand Commandery session, which will be in Waco. Please consider this my personal invitation to you to attend the 156<sup>th</sup> Grand Conclave of Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas in Waco on April 24-27, 2009. Copies of the registration form have been mailed to the recorder of each Commandery. Also, the form is available on the web. If neither is available to you, contact me at 254/756-1421 or email [billandmaggiematyastik@yahoo.com](mailto:billandmaggiematyastik@yahoo.com).

Field drill competition is on Saturday morning, April 25, and ritualistic competition in one or both of these competitions. Circular Letter No. 1, which has been sent to each Commandery by the Grand recorder, gives the details you need to know in preparation for the competition.

The awards banquet will be Saturday evening, April 25, and the divine and memorial services will be Sunday morning, as has been the custom. The ritualistic opening of Grand Commandery on Monday morning April 27, 2009, will be performed by Past Grand Commanders filling all the stations. After appropriate introductions, the business session will be conducted. You are urged to attend, to be better informed and have a part in the activities of your Grand Commandery. Commanders and recorders are reminded that attendance at the business session is one of the requirements for earning the merit award.

Maggie and I are planning and working for a good time for all who come to Grand Commandery. We hope to see YOU!

As we prepare for our own pleasure and enjoyment at Grand Commandery, let us not forget to do our part in the 41<sup>st</sup> Voluntary Campaign for the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. Individual contributions from Sir Knights, memorials, and fund raising efforts by local commanderies for the Eye Foundation, are all needed to make this campaign the success it needs to be. The mission of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation is "to provide assistance to those who face loss of sight due to the need of surgical treatment without regard to race, color, creed, age, sex, or national origin provided they are unable to pay or receive adequate assistance from current government agencies or similar sources, and to provide funds for research in curing diseases of the eye." You can have a part by mailing your check to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., 1000 East State Parkway, Suite 1, Schaumburg, IL 60173. Quoting from a recent brochure printed by the K.T. Eye Foundation: "You, as a Knight Templar and all other Sir Knights have the responsibility of maintaining this great humanitarian charity. Can you imagine what the loss of sight means to yourself or someone else? Make a commitment now to help those in need who through no fault of their own could lose their sight. The research and development of medical practices for the prevention of disease of the eyes in adults and children is essential for the future. Difference between day and night, light and darkness, sight and blindness, is determined by Sir Knights who are committed and obligated to bind up the wounds of the afflicted."

In His Service,

William E. Matyastik  
Grand Commander