

## OKLAHOMA SUPPLEMENT

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### MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND COMMANDER

As we travel through life we understand that the adventure before us begins with our own choices. We are blessed by God to succeed or fail in these undertakings as He sees fit. Many times when something doesn't go as we plan we are unable to make a clear understanding of what we did or did not do correctly and forget that again it is His plan we should be looking for. As many of you know this last year has not been what I planned, but I am trying to follow the path He, our Lord and Savior, has set forth before me. In many ways, I look at my year as Grand Commander as a failure, yet I see what my officers have accomplished and how they have made what could otherwise be viewed as my failures and turned them into a successful year for the Grand Commandery of Oklahoma. I wish to congratulate my officers, and especially my VEDGC Gary Odendall on pulling together and making what could have been a tough year a wonderful and successful year for all of Oklahoma's York Rite Mason's! I thank each of you for your support and understanding for me and my family.

Now we discuss what we did and did not accomplish this year. Our greatest accomplishment was our successful work with our Grand Lodge and how we have furthered that relationship and shown we are a big part of Masonry. The opportunity to be actively involved with the Grand Lodge at public events and show the public who we are and what we believe and do has been a "grand" success to Knights Templar not only in Oklahoma but

across the country. Our inspections went very well this year and I am proud of the Sir Knights who put forth the effort to make their Commandery's proud and successful. We have improved our abilities this year and have improved efforts by Commandery's to participate in the inspection process. We have worked hard to improve our membership numbers and even though we haven't kept up with our loses, we have not failed in our efforts and have minimized the impact.

Our failures this year are minimal and even though some would become specific I feel that other than our lack of fundraising this year will go unnoticed. The plans have been made and next year should see several of those moves toward fruition and through the continued work of the good men in the Grand Commandery line I feel all things are at least as good if not better than at the beginning of my tenure.

It has been my greatest honor to be allowed to serve this year as YOUR Grand Commander and I appreciate the opportunity. I will look forward to being able to continue to serve in whatever capacity my future may permit. Thank you all for this opportunity that God presented and you permitted. As we all move forward to our next stage in life try to remember that it is our duty to accept the opportunities God has put before us and fulfill His will. May each of you be blessed in your future.

Sincerely,

Curtis K. Schuermann, REGC



**Central Oklahoma Knight Templar Festival  
February 15, 2020**