

The Asylum

From the Editor

Sir Knight Daniel A. Rivers, PC

Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." (Genesis 1:26-28)

What a powerful directive, from on High!! We have had a beautiful season this year with plenty of rain, and the beauty of the world the Lord has created is very evident. In my area of Colorado I am blessed to see young elk, mule deer, bobcats, fox and turkeys in the area. My wife and I clear away old, dead, forest, pick up trash and leave the food sources undisturbed for the wildlife. In my opinion "having dominion over" means assisting and supporting the natural state of things, not feeding or interfering with wildlife.

When I read this passage, I immediately find a hidden message. Or, maybe it's not so hidden really. To assume dominion over the earth, and all of the inhabitants of the earth, we first have to have the discipline to assume dominion over ourselves! Self-discipline is a difficult thing for many. I have been a mentor for many years, and I teach my mentees to focus on body, mind and spirit (the magic number three). I believe Masonry teaches this same lesson, and that Knight Templary should be the most disciplined of Masonic bodies. I state the latter having been a warrior, and I understand the discipline required for that lifestyle. I also understand the discipline of showing up on Commandery night, participating in all of the events scheduled, learning new ritual and mentoring new Masons. How easy it would be to forsake all of this and go fishing, gambling, shopping or just sit and watch TV. And what a diminished world it would be if Masons gave up their mission, and did these other things. Having the self-discipline to commit to an organization focused on civic, intellectual and earthly improvements makes each of you a rare and valued individual.

Having dominion over my own yard, I have been planting flowers this year. Because of the rain they came up in force and looked beautiful. I come from a heritage of farmers and planters of the earth. People who rejoice in the blessing of sun, soil and seasons. The deer came and mowed down my beautiful flowers in short order, which made me somewhat angry initially. Then I remembered the Bible passage above, and realized I wasn't taking dominion over the land to grow beautiful flowers, but to feed the inhabitant of the earth here in my local area. So, mission accomplished as directed by my Lord on High! 😊





GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF COLORADO

Sir Knight Ron Birely, Right Eminent Grand Commander

303-748-4547, ronbir@msn.com

Open Letter to the Sir Knights of Pueblo Commandery #3

Almost thirty years ago, Past Grand Commander Larry Blanchard (Wyoming), Past Grand Commander David Salberg, Past Commander Ron Garrett, and the Sir Knights of Salida Commandery had the vision to host an outdoor Commandery festival. At the festival, Templars from all over the state would be invited. Commanderies from different parts of the state would be asked to deliver one of the orders. The festival would be done for the benefit of Royal Arch Masons, seeking Templary, to advance their York Rite Journey.

For Many Years this festival was held at the Blanchard Ranch at the base of Mount Shavano. In the recent past it has been held at the Masonic Park at South Fork Colorado, still hosted by the Sir Knights of Salida Commandery. But as times change it became impossible for Salida Commandery to continue serving as the host of this important event.

Enter the Sir Knights of Pueblo Commandery #3. The leadership of this Commandery recognized the importance of this summer event to the health and well-being of Colorado Templary. As the new host of this event, the vision of our Past Commanders is still alive and well. For this, many of us are truly grateful. Everything about the day was perfect. The location was beautiful. The organization of the event was stellar, and the lunch was great. We also need to thank Past Commander Ron Garrett for his support, and advice towards the successful execution of this wonderful weekend. I do not think the day could have gone better.

The three Commanderies that presented Orders did a great job, and it was especially pleasing to see Jefferson-Highlands taking an active role in presenting the Order of Malta. There were twenty Royal Arch Masons who received the Order of the Temple on Saturday.

My deepest appreciation, and gratitude to the Sir Knights of Pueblo Commandery #3.

Courteously,

Ron Birely

Ron Birely
R.E. Grand Commander
Grand Commandery of Colorado

The York Rite Grand Sessions are coming up September 7-9, 2023. These are annual sessions that involve yearly reviews of each York Rite Grand body, election of new Officers, awards and recognition for individuals and Commanderies, updates and awards by the Grand Encampment and general Knightly fellowship and comradery. Any Mason can attend the general sessions, minus the Chair Degrees, and see the various York Rite bodies at work. Clearly, the focus is on York Rite Mason's, so plan accordingly. If you are a York Rite Mason and plan to attend please go to this site to sign up <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/grand-york-rite-sessions-golden-colorado-registration-547790264427?aff=oddtcreator>. We do ask that you pre-register so we know who is attending, and you can opt in for whatever meals you are interested in.



Thursday, September 7

Grand York Rite Sessions Golden, Colorado

Enjoy Friendship, Camaraderie with fellow Companions at "Your" Colorado Grand Sessions. Do Business, Elect and Install Grand Officers.

By **Grand York Rite of Colorado**
18 followers

Follow

\$20 – \$30

Reserve a spot

As with anything else, the more active you are in this community, the more you, and the organization, benefits. Our strength is in numbers, diversity and in force to accomplish the work of our York Rite bodies. I hope to see all of the regulars, and many new faces at this event. It would be fantastic to have a record turnout. You are hereby cordially invited!!

If you are a sitting Eminent Commander, or a Past Commander, and are not yet part of the Past Commander's Association please see the application form below. As Knight's Templar you are automatically part of the Knight's Templar Association. Joining the Past Commander's Association highlights the higher commitment you have made to Knight Templary. This organization has a one-time fee for joining, and meets once a year at our York Rite Grand Sessions. The link to the form is https://www.coloradokta.org/files/ugd/ece157_c6b660d9b71543d2ac0d172ee65b2f5d.pdf. If you have never looked at the KTA site that link is <https://www.coloradokta.org> and there is a plethora of information there that you should find extremely interesting. Take a look and see what resonates with you. Our next induction of Past Commander Association members will be September 7th, 2023 at 5:00 PM at Golden City Lodge. Get your application in soon.



Application for Membership
Past Commanders Association
of
Knights Templar of Colorado



Print Name: _____

I am a Past (or Present) Commander and a member of:

_____ Commandery # _____ Located at: _____

Colorado, _____ (Zip Code). Email: _____

My Occupation is (was) _____

My address is: _____

Phone (H): _____ (C): _____

I was born at (city/state) _____ on (date) _____

I have previously (or currently) served (serving) as commander during the period of: _____

THE INITIATION AND MEMBERSHIP FEE IS \$45.00, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE WITH THE APPLICATION, CHECK MADE OUT TO "THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR ASSOCIATION OF COLORADO", WHICH WILL SECURE YOU A JEWEL AND MEMBERSHIP CARD. THERE ARE NO DUES.

Date of Application: _____

Signature in Full: _____

Recommended and vouched for by: _____

RETURN THIS APPLICATION ACCOMPANIED WITH YOUR \$45.00 FEE TO:

SK John Francis, Secretary
5782 South Netherland Street
Centennial, Colorado 80015
jwfbama@msn.com

Rocky Mountain Honor Flight

J Randy Penn, Grand Sr Warden

Rocky Mountain Honor Flight scheduled Honor Flights for 2023. We gather to provide a Sword Salute for the returning veterans and guardians. That is one side of an Arch of Steel so it easy. This trip is incredibly moving for the veterans and our participation on the return is a appropriate honor. I invite all Sir Knights to join us. RSVP is critical. Unfortunately our attendance is frequently low, so I'll cancel our attendance if we don't have 4 RSVPs. RSVP & questions to PennJR@comcast.net. Below is the status as March 8 from <https://rockymountainhonorflight.org> .

The Board of Directors of Rocky Mountain Honor Flight are pleased to be back to our mission of honoring Veterans as we resume operations post-pandemic. We take the health and safety of our Veterans, Guardians, and Volunteer Staff very seriously and will continue to adjust our travel logistics as warranted. For the immediate future we will continue to require proof of COVID-19 vaccination for all Veterans, Guardians, and Volunteers who wish to travel with us to Washington, DC.

Event: Flight #44 – in pre-planning DATE: September 14-16, 2023

Event: Flight #45 – in pre-planning DATE: October 19-21, 2023



ATTENTION TO ORDERS



GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF COLORADO

Sir Knight Ron Birely, Right Eminent Grand Commander

303-748-4547, ronbir@msn.com

August 5, 2023

To: All Commanders and Recorders of Commanderies of Colorado,

ORDER #1

I am fully aware that many of us do not belong to this beautiful and magnanimous order for awards and recognition. However, the public recognition of the good works of your Commandery can be a source of pride for your membership.

Accordingly, it is my **order as Grand Commander of Colorado** that if your Commandery hosted any one the following; a Maundy Thursday Program, Christmas Observance Program, Easter Program, or Ascension Observance, that you notify Sir Knight John Frances, Secretary of the KTA, of your activities, at your earliest convenience. This will allow us to provide your Commandery with appropriate recognition at the Grand Session on September 9, 2023. A simple email to Sir Knight Frances will be adequate this year. His email is jwfbama@msn.com.

Courteously,

Ron Birely

Ron Birely
R.E. Grand Commander
Grand Commandery of Colorado

CC: Grand Commandery Officers



GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF COLORADO

Sir Knight Ron Birely, Right Eminent Grand Commander

303-748-4547, ronbir@msn.com

August 5, 2023

To: All Commanders and Recorders of Commanderies of Colorado

ORDER #2

I want to thank the Commanderies of Colorado, who, during this Templar Year, have Knighted new Sir Knights. However, I would remind you that a Brother's Knighting was simply the first step in a long journey. I have often worried that we do not properly follow up with the new Sir Knights, after we have shared the fifth libation. As I have stated on all of my Official Visits, the Grand Encampment has produced a GREAT document that each new Sir Knight should have in their library.

Accordingly, it is my **Order as Grand Commander of Colorado** that each new Knight in your Commandery, who has been Knighted this Templar Year, receive a physical copy, properly signed, and filled out, of the New Member Packet, found on the Grand Encampment website.

The New Member Packet can be found on the Grand Encampment website, under the Membership Info heading.

Courteously,

Ron Birely

Ron Birely
R.E. Grand Commander
Grand Commandery of Colorado

CC: Grand Commandery Officers

