

The Hoosier Templar

A publication of the Grand Commandery, KT, of Indiana



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Phillip Whisner, GC

Happy New Year!



From the Grand Commandery,
Knights Templar,
of the State of Indiana,
and its officers

MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND COMMANDER JANUARY 2023

The presents have been opened, the family gatherings are over, the toasts have been given, and the new year's resolutions have been made (and possibly already broken). As I look back over 2022, one word that comes to mind is "gratitude." I am grateful for the support and hospitality from the Sir Knights of Indiana, as well as for the work I saw in many of your Commanderies during the inspections and receptions. There is a great core of dedicated Sir Knights in our state, and while the work may not have always been perfect, I appreciated those who made the effort to learn both ritual and tactics during the year. I am also grateful for all the new Sir Knights whwere created throughout the state and hope to see your Commanderies continue to grow.

Now we look toward to 2023. I challenge every Commandery to focus on your work in this new year, both ritual and tactics, and especially to focus on membership. You are the best membership resource in Commandery. Be active in your Blue Lodge, talk about your experience in Commandery, and it will be easy to gain new members. Just imagine if every Sir Knight in Indiana brought in one new member in 2023!

While the inspections and receptions are done, there are still several events coming up that I hope to see you at:

- January 21st: Winter Meeting and Newby-Avery-Vaught banquet at the Seasons Lodge, Nashville, IN. The winter meeting begins at 1:00 PM and all Sir Knights are invited to attend. The Winter Meeting is meant to inform Commanderies of the activities of the Grand Commandery up to this point, how Commanderies within each Battalion are faring as compared to other Commanderies in their Battalion and the state and provide overall general information to all Sir Knights. I encourage each of you to consider attending. There is no registration cost or fee to attend. Preferred attire for the meeting is slacks and shirt (business casual). The Newby-Avery-Vaught banquet begins at 5:00 PM. The cost for the banquet only is \$45 per person. If you have not made reservations, please contact me before January 11th at p_whisner@aol.com or 317-431-3570.
- January 22nd: Worship Together Sunday at Southport United Methodist Church, 1947 E. Southport Rd, Indianapolis, 46227. Attire for this event is uniform (preferred) or coat and slacks. Ladies may wear dresses or slacks. All Sir Knights and their Ladies are invited to attend. Please let me know before January 15th if you would like to attend so that we can arrange to reserve a block of seats together in the worship center.
- February 18th: Levant Preceptory performs the Order of the Temple at Urbana Commandery No. 16, 14 Bel Aire Court, Champaign, IL 61820-7509. All Sir Knights are welcome to attend to watch the OT presented in period costume by a group of dedicated Sir Knights who always represent Indiana well. The OT begins at 1:00 PM CST/2:00 PM EST.
- March 11th: East Central Department Meeting in Ft. Wayne. Additional information about the EC meeting can be found in a separate article in this newsletter.
- April 5th – 9th: annual Easter Sunrise Service bus trip. There are still a few spots left for this trip, but the full payment must be in by the end of this month. Contact me if you need more details.
- April 23rd – 25th: Annual Conclave at the Indianapolis Marriott East, 7202 East 21st Street, Indianapolis. More details and meal reservation forms will be coming soon.

I wish each of you a great start to 2023 and look forward to seeing you at these events. While the inspections and receptions are over, I will still be visiting many of your Commanderies over the next four months, just to say hello and offer my support.

Fraternally,

Phil Whisner
Right Eminent Grand Commander

Grand Prelate's Monthly Message

A New Resolution

SK Archie R Smallwood KCT, PGC

Grand Prelate

Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of Indiana think on this wise for the upcoming year toward yourself and others and recall we build our lives on things we know.

“Consider your ways...and build the temple”

Haggai 1:7-8

People by nature build, tear down, and rebuild. We build our hopes, get disappointed, and then search for renewed hope. That is why we are fond of New Year's resolutions. They are very popular in our culture today, though most are seldom kept. We get busy; we forget; we fail. Making resolutions, though, at least forces us into a moment of honesty about our need to change.

The Bible tells us to examine ourselves before the Lord. When we do this with sincerity, the Lord reveals where we fall short. This turns us back to God and helps us realize that we are incapable of living lives pleasing to Him apart from His help day by day, hour by hour.

Have you taken inventory lately? Have you considered where you stand with God? As you begin this new year, return to the Lord, and consider Him—the One who gives you everything. Consider your ways and build on His foundation. “And in this place,” the Lord says, “I will bring peace” (Haggai 2:9 NLT).