



Missouri Supplement

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Attention To Orders!

GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Greetings Sir Knights,

Thank you for the honor and privilege of allowing me to serve this Grand Commandery as Grand Commander for the 2017-2018 Templar year. I will do my utmost to advance the cause of Templary in Missouri during my tenure in office. Suggestions for the betterment of our fraternity are always welcome. Send them to me at trent.moreland.phd@gmail.com.

I congratulate our junior Past Grand Commander, Sir Knight Robert W. Schlichter on the successful completion of his year and extend to him a hearty thank you for his efforts.

Be sure to mark your calendars. The 60th Annual South Central Department Conference for 2017 will be held at the Sheraton Clayton Plaza Hotel St. Louis (7730 Bonhomme Ave, St. Louis, MO 63105) on September 15th and 16th. An additional feature this year is an MMS training session that will be held on Thursday evening September 14th. All Chapter Secretaries, Council Recorders, and Commandery Recorders are encouraged to attend. More information will be forthcoming in the August Missouri Supplement so stay tuned.

As I published in the December 2016 Missouri Supplement, the theme for this year will be Fraternity, Family and Youth. By way of a brief reminder I submit the following.

As Knights Templar we are first and foremost a fraternity of Christian Freemasons. Each Commandery is strongly encouraged to engage in fraternal social events separate from stated Conclaves and intended for simple fraternal enjoyment. A mandatory line item has been added to the Honor Commandery Award for these events. I have instituted an important new committee this year, the Grand Commandery Fraternal Activities Committee, whose charge is to organize a Grand Commandery hosted social event held for all Sir Knights and their families to enjoy. More information will be announced in future Missouri Supplements.

The importance of family to our beloved Templar fraternity cannot be over emphasized. Each Commandery is strongly urged to hold a family inclusive meeting or event at least once during the 2017-2018 Templar year. A line item has also been added to the Honor Commandery Award for this event.

As Knights Templar the formation of youth with good moral and ethical charac-

ter should be a priority. Support of youth at every opportunity is encouraged and expected. There are many youth organizations to choose from including DeMolay, Jobs Daughters, Rainbow Girls, Royal Rangers, Pathfinders, Royal Ambassadors, Cadet Corps, Columbian Squires, Camp Fire, Boy Scouts, American Heritage Girls, Awana, Frontier Girls, and Girl Scouts. Equally important are local youth theater, band or sports teams. Make your presence known in a positive manner, promote strong Christian ideals and help guide the adults of tomorrow to a better future.

Thank you for your time and support of the programs for this year.

Fraternity, Family and Youth!

Sir Knight K. Trent Moreland, Grand Commander

PAST COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

On June 9, 2017 we changed the guard of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Missouri. New leadership brings new faces along with new ideas and innovation perhaps. My congratulations to those Officers that advanced, the new kid on the block, and to our newly installed Grand Commander, Sir Knight Kirby Trent Moreland. May y'all enjoy your opportunity to serve as much as I have. And to all those with whom I was able to reestablish acquaintance and those whom I met over the past nine years, I thank you for the memories.

Fraternally,

Sir Knight Robert W. Schlichter, Junior Past Grand Commander

INDEPENDENCE DAY!

If someone were to ask you, "What do you want from life?" Probably among the first things you would ask for is happiness, the freedom to do what you want, and to be safe and secure. These are the things we want from America.

If we want our nation to provide these things, then what are we willing to give our nation? Are we willing to give of ourselves to make the blessings keep flowing? Or are we just willing to take and give nothing back? For the last couple of generations, we have fallen short in teaching our children that with freedom, with liberty, with every blessing, comes an obligation to be responsible for them.

It may have been best said by President George Washington, "I now make it my prayer that God would keep you, the leaders of this new nation, in His holy protection. That He would incline the hearts of the citizens to subordinate and obedience to government, to entertain a brotherly love for one another, and finally that He would most graciously be pleased to have us to love mercy, charity, and humility. And that He would make us be temperate of mind, and have the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, without which, we shall never hope to be a happy nation."

Have a happy and safe celebration of our nation's Independence Day!