



# Grand Commandery Knights Templar Oregon



## State News for March, 2024

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### Greetings, Sir Knights

The year has passed. and your Grand Officers are racing to make their last official visitations, file their reports, and get ready for the Grand York Rite Sessions at the beginning of April. For each of the elected Officers of our respective Commanderies they should be making sure that their annual reports have been filed and that they have made plans on being at the Grand Commandery Session. There is always direction that needs to be given to the Grand Commandery by the folks they represent.

Just as Spring starts the growth of new life from the ground, the Grand York Rite Sessions start the growth of our organization for the new year. While the title of Past (Insert your position here) is reserved for the person leaving the top position, I have always referred myself as a "Ustawuz." Except for in official designations where formal titles are required, there is a big difference between being a Past and a Ustawuz. A Past uses his title to continue the prestige of an office that has been passed to another. They look back from the pinnacle of their high office refusing to see that once past the pinnacle the path leads back down the mountain. A Ustawuz acknowledges that they were elevated by their peers for a time and that the work that they did to achieve that high rank is still needed. They surrender the office and step back into membership and continue to work. They may be called to do work at a higher level, but they continue to work.

If you want to hear me speak on the state of the Grand Commandery, you will need to attend the Grand Session. I am going to take time to reach out to thank every Sir Knight that has taken part in the Orders this year. I understand that we are slowly recovering after losing so many these last few years. The only way we will recover is if anyone who wants to take part is given the chance.

I want thank each of the Commanderies I have or will visit for the hospitality shown and the enthusiastic reception that I have received from the Sir Knights. I would also like to thank those who support our Sir Knights



and make it possible for them to attend, they are the reason we can be at the meetings. I would like to thank the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, their Officers elected and appointed, the District Deputies of the Grand Master, and Office staff for the unwavering support they have given to the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Oregon. This year I have seen a large number of Grand Lodge badges going through or supporting those going through the Orders.

Editing the message for the Oregon Edition of the Knight Templar Magazine is a thankless job. You not only act as a second set of eyes for each edition, suggest better wording or changes to the message, remind the Grand Commander when he is tardy, and finish the formatting before publishing it to the Grand Encampment Web page. Neither the Editor or the Grand Commander ever know if the message will get read, but they press on as communications are key to the success of our year. I know how hard it is as I did that job for eight years when we had a much shorter amount of space in which to publish our message. The man behind the curtain in my year of publishing these messages is Sir Knight Terry Pea. The format you read on the website is his. I want to say how very much I appreciate his efforts this year and in the previous years he has done this thankless work. A Grand Commander is only as good as the people he surrounds himself with and SK Terry sets a high bar.

I look forward to seeing the Sir Knights at the 138<sup>th</sup> Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Oregon.

Courteously,

Dale E. Imbleau, Grand Commander, 2023-2024

