

## WISCONSIN SUPPLEMENT

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Charles C. Clarage  
Grand Commander

### A Message From The Grand Commander

Hello all;

Welcome to a brand new year. Which will offer us opportunities to be good and to be better. I know that is a phrase we've all heard before. If you think hard you may find it in part of your ritual. I know it's not an exact quote. So I will not be able to cite it. I would be willing to hear from anyone who does find the majority of that quote though. I know everyone is looking forward to the inspection season as much as I am. There may still be some changes. While I think we have worked most of them out. No one knows if weather will be a factor and we need to adjust something in the inspection schedule. Please try to look to the Grand Commandery website for the most up-to-date times and dates. In planning for an inspection I would also recommend that the Commandery's look to the Grand Encampment website if they have questions on the protocol and procedures for banquets or seating placement. There are several great resources on that website. In looking around on that website you may even find information on the upcoming Triennial. I would encourage all Sir Knights, if given the opportunity, to attend that event. The Triennial is an event that you are entitled to go to and it will be in a relatively close distance being held in the state of Indiana. I look forward to seeing all of you at the upcoming inspections around our great state of Wisconsin. Good luck to all of the Commandery's. I look forward to seeing some fine work and enjoying the fellowship. I will try to include some of the links to websites I cited above.

Courteously;

Charles C. Clarage  
Right Eminent Grand Commander

From the Grand Captain General

Greetings, Sir Knights!

2017 is now in the rearview mirror and we are plunging headlong into 2018, looking forward to a great New Year. I hope your holidays were happy and you got to spend time with your families. Christmas is always a wondrous time of the year as we celebrate the greatest gift to man, the birth of our blessed savior, Jesus Christ. May his love fill our hearts and lead us as we strive to do his work in the coming year.

Inspection season is now upon us. This is the time to renew old friendships, meet our new Sir Knights and strengthen the bonds of our fraternity. I encourage you all to not only travel and attend as many inspections as you are able, but to enjoy the refreshments and fellowship with our fraters. In the hustle and bustle of our busy lives, we often forget to enjoy the fruits of our labors, the friendships we cultivate as we labor together in Templary.

I've come to realize that far too often we are so busy 'doing Masonry' that we don't take time to 'be Masons'. In our rush to get home from work and get ourselves off to the night's meeting, we struggle to find time to reach out to the fraters we haven't seen in a while. When we hear of sickness or distress, we too often neglect making the phone call or sending a card. On our way home from the meeting we think of our frater and remind ourselves, 'I need to call him tomorrow,' only to once again fall victim to our busy schedules.

As I look back at all the opportunities I have missed to reach out and comfort, or just talk to an old friend I feel ashamed. How did I let this happen? I got so caught up in the 'work' that I forgot about the 'true work'. Masonry is spreading the bonds of brotherly love and affection, that cement which unites us into one sacred band, or society, of friends and brothers. It's not about minutes or dues or treasurer's reports...it's about brotherhood.

So I urge you all to make this New Year's resolution, to take a few minutes each day and be a Mason. Make a phone call, send a card, or stop by and visit. Or even come to an inspection. Find some time to share in the fellowship of our craft. As Dirty Harry would say... 'Make my day!'

See you in the Asylum!

Mick Olson, G.C.G.

Link to: Wisconsin Grand Commandery Inspection Schedule

<http://www.knightstemplar.org/gckt/wi/InspectionSchedule.pdf>