



STATE NEWS - JANUARY 2022

Editor: Randall Partin r_partin@att.net

Web Site: www.yorkriteky.org/grandcommandery



*SK Joseph P. Giles,
Grand Commander*

Greetings Sir Knights,

As the year ends, we should take time to reflect on our past and plan for the next several months.

The year in Kentucky was a very mixed bag of events. We endured flash flooding and one of if not the worst tornado swarms in western and southern Kentucky history. We lost several very good men from our ranks whose shoes we will try to fill but, I fear it will take many years to accomplish that singular task. We knighted many new Sir Knights throughout the Commonwealth at several locations and we survived to honor our orders and craft for another season.

The Grand Inspector General and I have visited many commanderies and have given condensed education sessions on the

Templar funeral regulations, the honor guard floor work, the Templar funeral ritual, reviews of the tactics, sword work, and the long-form opening of the commanderies. The scheduled training sessions in Paducah, Danville, and Morehead went well and I think were well received by all that attended. I would like to have seen more in attendance but I also understand conflicts with other Masonic (York Rite, Scottish Rite, Blue Lodge, and Grand Lodge) scheduled events at the close of the year. It seems everyone wanted to get their events finished as soon as they could to make sure they did not get into our unpredictable winter weather season. All in all, it seems to have worked out as it should and with requests from your division commanders, we will bring more education sessions to your areas in the coming months before your inspection dates as requests come in and time permits.

In my travels throughout the Templar system in our state, I have had the pleasure to sit and talk with many Sir Knights. Most that I have talked to have stated the same issues regarding feeling like they lost skills with regard to floor work and opening processes during the COVID years. I encourage all Sir Knights to use the CDC guidelines but also to get back into our stated meetings and practice our openings and works. Your inspection dates are fast approaching and the division commanders have their inspection forms at the ready. Ask them for copies of what is expected and walk through the process before your inspection dates. It will make all the difference when that anticipated and some say the stressful time of review arrives. It need not be stressful but always

seems to be perceived that way when the division commanders come to review our processes. I suppose no one likes to be graded but it is needed to ensure uniformity in our system and rituals.

A new year dawns and I ask you to remember those in need from our tornado-ravaged southern and western towns. Keep them in your prayers. Send help if possible and continue to push back the inertia we all fall into with regard to not attending our Masonic meetings. We must push forward to meet and remember our works/rituals if we desire to survive as Knights Templars.

Courteously,

Joseph P. Giles

Servant to and Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templars of Kentucky



Glasgow York Rite Festival

Chapter and Council Degrees February 5, 2022, 9:00 AM CST

Commandery Orders February 19, 2022, 9:00 AM CST

Work will be conferred at Allen Lodge #24 located on South Green St. in Glasgow, KY on the third floor of the US Bank Building. For more information contact: Herb Hess at (270)427-8645, kj4cmg@gmail.com

Eastern Kentucky York Rite Festival

Chapter and Council Degrees January 15, 2022; Breakfast 8:00 AM EST; work at 9:00 AM.

Commandery will be conferred on a date to be determined.

Location: Zebulon Lodge, 256 West Court Street, Prestonsburg, KY. For more information contact: Justin Rowe (606)369-3622; Chris Griffith – (606)872-1689; Anthony Skeans – (606)791-2902



Grand Commandery of Kentucky
Virtual Christmas Service,
Williamsburg Commandery No. 50,
December 21, 2021.

l-r SK Carl Jones, Division
Commander, Division VIII; SK Vernon
Jones; SK Rick Grubb; SK Pat White,
Eminent Commander; SK Larry Carte,
PGC; SK Randy Grubb; SK Charles
Cooper, PC.