



Tennessee Knight Templar News

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Tennessee – Billy Barnett Young, Grand Commander



We wish all Knights and their Families a Safe and Prosperous New Year

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL CONCLAVE

The Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery will be Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at the Grand Lodge Building and will open at 8:00 am CST.
Attire is Uniform minus Sword.

Sid C. Dorris Award to be Introduced at 2022 Grand Commandery Conclave

As many of you know, Past Grand Commander and Past Grand Master Sid Dorris had been elected to the Grand Encampment line and was progressing toward being Grand Master of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar, USA when he died. As leader of several appendant bodies in Tennessee, Sid had initiated policies and endowments to ensure the financial stability of these bodies far into the future. As it turns out, he had a similar plan for the Grand Encampment.

A “Permanent Fund” of the Grand Encampment has been in place for some time but has never been fully funded. The purpose of this fund is to use the interest only to fund the regular administrative functions of the Grand Encampment permanently and avoid the future pressure to continue to raise dues from year to year. Sid’s dream was to strike a medal for the Templar uniform, to be worn by any Sir Knight who had made a \$1,000 contribution to this fund. Sadly, he died before he was able to implement this award, and his dream was almost forgotten.

Our current Grand Master, Mike Johnson, was a great friend of Sid’s as were many of us. Grand Master Johnson learned of Sid’s dream and decided to implement the program in Sid’s honor. Furthermore, to further honor Sid’s memory, he has decided to initiate the program in Tennessee during our Annual Conclave to be held Tuesday, March 22, 2022, in Nashville.

The rollout will be held at the Grand Lodge Building at lunch, during the time slot that is normally reserved for the KYCH Dinner. Many of the Grand Encampment officers will be there to explain the award, the fund, and its impact on Templary.

We urge you to purchase a ticket for the lunch and to attend the program so that we may honor the memory of Sid Dorris, show our appreciation to the Grand Encampment for establishing this award, and be among the first to donate and receive the medal. The medals will be available at the meeting, and donations will be accepted. We also urge you to bring your lady to this kickoff event. In addition to individual donations, you might also consider making a donation from your Commandery to obtain a medal that could either be displayed in your asylum or provided for your Commander to wear during his term of office.

Fraternally,

John Palmer, PGM

Robert Beam, EGG

John Simmons II, EGCG

Tennessee Sid Dorris Award Committee



Grand Commandery Represented at Scottish Rite Honours in Nashville

The Grand Commandery of Tennessee was well represented at the recent Conferral of the 33rd Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in Nashville on Saturday, December 11, 2022. In particular our VEDGC John Spencer was Coroneted an Inspector General Honorary. Sir Knight John L. Palmer GCT and Editor of *Knight Templar Magazine* conferred the Degree, with several others taking part. Pictured are (l-r): Sir Knights Robert B. Beam, EGG; Roy C. Etherton, PGC; Dickie W. Johnson, PGC and RE Honorary Grand Prelate; Terry L. Plemons, PGC and RE Grand Prelate for the Grand Encampment; Joseph C. Harrison KYCH and SGIG in Tennessee for Scottish Rite; John L. Palmer, PGC; John R. Spencer, VEDGC and 33rd-Elect from the Valley of Nashville; and John L. Simmons, EGCG. Congratulations to all those Coroneted during this Biennium.



Upcoming York Rite Festival – the Knoxville Area Association will hold their Winter 2022 Festival on Saturday, January 29, and Saturday, February 5, 2022, at the Masonic Temple on Locust Street. The Capitular and Cryptic Degrees will be conferred on the first Saturday and the Orders of Christian Knighthood on the second. Registration begins both days at 8:00 am.

There is still time to purchase Holy Land Pilgrimage Socks and support this important activity of our Grand Commandery. SK Bobby Blankenship has three styles and these are available for \$25 per pair. Pictured below are each of these styles. Proceeds go to support our Holy Land Pilgrimage Endowment Fund. For information, contact either Bobby Blankenship or Darryl Chapman.

