

GRAND COMMANDERY of OHIO
State News for March, 2024
Web Site: <https://ohioknightstemplar.com>
SK Richard L. Ganion, KCT, REGC



Editor: S. Jefferson Slattery, KCT, slattery@athensmasons.org

Greetings Sir Knights and Ladies,

Cannot believe it is March already. Brings to mind the thoughts of Spring – a new, fresh beginning and new growth after a long and dreary winter.

March has many events before us. The East Central Department Conference in Fort Wayne, IN on March 9th. Then of course we will be making our annual pilgrimage to DC to celebrate Easter, with the sunrise service at the George Washington Masonic Memorial on March 31st. Hope to see many of you at these events.

As I write this, we are about halfway through our Inspection Season in Ohio. So much to celebrate. Renewing friendships. Seeing some good work. And of course, the side benefit of bringing in new Sir Knights to our Order.

A reminder: This year I am offering cash incentives to Divisions for achieving membership goals. It is a two-part incentive. One incentive is for bringing in new members. The second incentive is for reinstatements – an all too often overlooked resource. I am challenging each of our Commanderies to reach out and see why these Sir Knights left. My hope is that by reaching out, some may be enticed to return.

As Lady Debbie and I have been traveling around the state, I have been speaking on how so many civic organizations are having recruitment difficulties, same as us. I relate our difficulties to similarities with the military services experiencing recruitment issues, per a story in the Dayton Daily News last November. I wrote about this in the January article.

Then, and you can't make this stuff up, there was yet another article in that newspaper a couple of weeks ago. What a coincidence. Front page, top of the fold (as to be expected as Dayton is home to Wright-Patterson AFB.) The U.S. Air Force is now attempting to reinstate separated and retired members as a way to build up its ranks. Makes sense: They are already initiated, trained, and ready to be put to work.

Same with our wayward members. They are out there, in a position to be brought back in and put to work. Many just wanted something to do and left when they didn't get a chance nor were offered opportunities. If/when we get them back, we need to do just that. Put them to work. Find something for them to do. There are so many tasks that need to be performed, that don't have to be done by officers. Train them, and also learn from them. People can help each other to improve and become better. As it says in Proverbs "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another" (Proverbs 27:17, ESV)

Lady Debbie and I are looking forward to seeing many of you in our travels. Stay safe!

Who are we? WE ARE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR!

Courteously,

Richard L Ganion, KCT

Right Eminent Grand Commander

Knights Templar of Ohio