

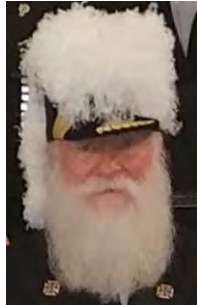
**GRAND COMMANDERY OF OKLAHOMA
Knights Templar State News for June 2023**

Web Site



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GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Well, here we are again, inspection season. Why do we do inspections? Why do we want the Order of the Temple performed at these inspections?

We are a military organization and from time immemorial, the military has held inspections to make sure the organization and the men were ready to complete their mission successfully. We stand for inspections to make sure that our Sir Knights and Commanderies are giving our new Sir Knights the best experience possible rather than just reading meeting minutes, hearing the treasurers report and going home. A Masonic organization that cannot open and close in due form is not a proper Masonic Order. Our ritual is what makes us different from all other civic organizations. We even teach our youth organizations about opening and closing in ritually correct form. This tradition has existed before the Grand Lodge of England was formed.

We are a Masonic organization. We perform Degrees and Orders to teach incoming members lessons in Masonry. Civic organizations read a statement of the objectives and requirements of the organization to new members. There are no lessons involved and no further lessons in life are given. In Masonry the lessons are ongoing. Each time a Degree or Order is performed more of the lessons become clearer. The Red Cross, Malta and Order of the Temple are those lessons that give and give and give. A number of years ago each and every Commandery could perform all three of these orders to impress upon candidates the beauty of and reason for being a Knights Templar and a Soldier of Christ Jesus.

Now we are doing the Orders in mass form. The inspection requiring the Order of the Temple to be performed is not done to just to demand that a Commandery comply to a process. It is done to help the Commandery do the best Order possible to give the candidate the best experience of his Masonic Life.

I was initiated into York Rite at Guthrie at a festival, but, SK James C. Taylor at Elk City Commandery did not allow me to participate with many others in the Order of the Temple. He, instead had me participate alone in the most impressive and significant performance of my

Masonic Life. I participated in an Order that was first communicated in the Colony of Massachusetts in 1769. It furthered my involvement as a Christian.

Please endeavor to give future candidates the opportunity that they too can feel the singular participation in this great and impressive Christian Order. They will be more inclined to attend and participate in your Commandery.

The Committee members and Inspectors did an excellent job of setting up the inspection dates. The Inspectors are there to help make your performances better, not to chide or criticize you. Ask them questions, use their reports to help you and do the Order in the most impressive manner possible. If you have any questions or ideas I am open to you.

The Grand Masters festival is in July, and St. John the Baptist Day is during the month of June, which is to be celebrated in all Commanderies in the month of June.

Yours in the Christ Jesus,
SK John E. King
REGC Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Oklahoma



DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Companions and Sir Knights, following our Grand Sessions we are excited to begin the new Templar year in Oklahoma. Your Grand Commander RE SK John E King and all of your Grand Commandery Officers are looking forward to visiting you and attending the inspections of our Oklahoma Commanderies over the next several months. Remember, practice is the key to getting it right, and rehearsals are the way to performing it right. Let's commit to both.

We must all continue the momentum of 2022-2023, which we have seen renewed awareness of the purpose in the Commandery work. It is intended to uphold our Christian values and to honor the sacrifice of our Savior Jesus Christ in our work. The lessons we learn through the Commandery degrees will guide us all in our daily walk.

The Annual Grand York Rite Festival in honor of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Oklahoma has been scheduled for 22 July 2023 and will be held at Oklahoma City Lodge #36. The lodge is located at 2935 W. Britton Road, OKC, OK. The degrees will be performed by select degree teams from around Oklahoma.

The success of this annual festival depends on **all of us**. We should be sharing the experience of the York Rite with all of the Master Masons in our blue lodges. Remember, the current Grand Master has signed Decision #1 which allows all Master Masons to seek membership and further light in the concordant and appendant bodies once they are raised to Master Mason. We all would hope that the lodges that these Brothers travel through will take an interest in their growth. This is shown by those mentors and coaches getting them through the lecture of the Master Mason degree which also makes them eligible to join the other Masonic bodies our Grand Jurisdiction without waiting the 6 month period. More information and links to petitions can be found at www.okyorkrite.org or by emailing info@okyorkrite.org.

Let's promote this historic event in which our Grand Master is an active and working York Rite Sir Knight, serving this year as our Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander. Of course, you are aware that this year, I serve in these positions of great responsibility, and I am humbled and honored to do so. I truly hope that we can achieve a record number of new Sir Knights.

In Service to our Savior,
SK Glen A Chaney
Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander



GRAND PRELATE'S MESSAGE

"The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it." (1 Thessalonians 5:24)

Building our lives according to the calling requires seeking God's will and surrendering to His plans. It means aligning our desires, goals, and actions with His purpose for us. As we do so, we can experience fulfillment and significantly impact the world around us.

Discovering our calling begins with a relationship with God. Through prayer, meditation on His Word, and seeking His guidance, we can discern His will for our lives. God's call can unfold gradually. Our role is to trust Him, to follow Him, and thus to fulfill ourselves.

Building our lives according to our calling also involves personal growth and development. It requires cultivating our gifts and talents, pursuing knowledge and wisdom, and embracing opportunities to serve others. As we grow in our relationship with God and live out our calling, we bring glory to His name and contribute to the advancement of His Kingdom.

Let us embrace the calling God has placed on our lives and build our lives in alignment with His purpose. As we do so, we can experience a deep sense of fulfillment and make a positive impact on the lives of others. Trust in His leading, seek His guidance, and step boldly into the calling He has entrusted to you.

May our lives testify to God's grace and love. May we continually seek His guidance and walk in obedience, knowing He will empower and equip us for every step of the journey.

SK STEVEN COX
EG PRELATE



My first Official Visit was to the Beauceant
This is a outstanding Ladies Group that supports the Commanderies.
Talk to your wives, daughters etc. let us support this good Christian organization.



Three outstanding Knights assisting the Grand Lodge Cornerstone at Apache,
representing the Oklahoma Knights Templar, in our Quest for the recognition of
our most excellent Christian Brotherhood.