

K Arkansas n i g h t l y N e w s

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A Monthly e-Newsletter - September 2023 - Vol. II, No. 2

Sir Knights, Attention:



S.K. Sheldon A. Gately
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2023-2024
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Grand Commander Gately is sharing the messaging opportunities among the Grand Officers. This month's article is from our Eminent Sr. Warden Joshua Bryan.

Dear Sir Knights,

Greetings from the grand line. This year Arkansas York Rite has made great strides toward returning to pre-Covid membership levels. Around the state, local bodies have been performing a lot of ritual work which has been paired with a strong program of statewide festivals. On October 14, 2023 starting at 9 am, we will conclude the program with a conferral of the Orders Of Christian Knighthood during a statewide festivals hosted by Hugh de Payens Commandery No. 1 located in the north end of the Albert Pike Memorial Temple on October 14, 2023. (Contact T.J. Henwood for specifics.)

I have just returned from this year's South-central Departmental Conference in Branson, Missouri. Arkansas was represented well on both days. If you are able, I highly suggest attending next September when it is held in Tulsa, Oklahoma. There are always a plethora of ideas and information to help grow and support your Commandery. The Grand Encampment also has a leadership course which can be completed over three departmental conferences.

One of the topics discussed this year, besides growing new members, was making your Commandery "something of value" to its members, so we retain those sir knights as active members in your Commandery. There is no singular way to create this value, and each Commandery can use multiple avenues to reach different types of members. For some members, adding a strong program of education or dissecting /practicing a portion of the ritual during your meetings will create that value. For others, planning and holding events may be what hooks them in. Events could vary between events for the community such as joining a local parade or volunteering, or they could be events of

the commandery itself such as an ice cream social or honor event for its members. You can get feedback from your members to see which ideas worked and which ideas need adjustments.

To close, I would like to congratulate Reuben "Butch" Lender who was presented with the Grand Master's Sword of Merit by R.E. Grand Commander Sheldon Gately in recognition of his donation to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

Joshua Bryan, Grand Senior Warden.

Statewide Festival of Commandery Orders

Saturday, October 14, 2023 -Hugh de Payens Commandery

9:00am - 3:30pm (Lunch at Noon)

Contact T.J. Henwood for specifics

