

GRAND COMMANDERY OF OKLAHOMA
Knights Templar State News for November 2023

Web Site



Grand Commander SK John E. King REGC
Editor SK John E. King REGC, Email: jek41@sbcglobal.net Cell: (580) 471-0636



GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Last night I was present in Mangum Lodge No 61, at the start of a new DeMolay Chapter. There were 10 young men who were looking forward to learning the lessons the youth organization teaches. In today's world this has become a very infrequent occasion. Most youth today have lost the desire to join an organization that teaches them to be true gentlemen and follow the way God has taught us to live our lives.

The hate generated today is permeating the world and most importantly, this country. The time we are in made me think back to the time when the Romans persecuted the new religion of Christianity. They put them into the arenas with animals to tear them apart. Throughout the ages persecution of people different from factions of power has been the rule and not the exception. We thought after World War II we had defeated the oppression of the powers that maimed and killed all those who made rulers seem inferior. In France and other countries, the Nazis even hunted down Masons.

Well, we were wrong. Power begets ultimate power and is the disease that infects the human mind and makes humans unable to rule without believing they are the ultimate human and all inferior, or those they see as a threat to their rule, are put in prisons or executed. Today, the same type of rulers that we defeated have been allowed to come to power and have kept that power with the consent of the people

who will do nothing to rid them because of their fear. The absence of freedom of assembly and freedom of speech will keep them paralyzed until they take control of that fear and join with others to rid the world of the oppressors.

As Masons we take on obligation to uphold that freedom that was won by the death of so many men and women in so many wars throughout our history. What are we going to do to make the necessary changes in this world to bring God back to the populace and rid this world of the despicable and corrupt rulers to justice, never again allowing them to flourish? The Romans who persecuted the Christians saw the devotion to their God and the Christ Jesus, willing to die rather than deny their faith, gradually took the Christian religion themselves and professed their faith in Jesus.

We as Masons and Knights Templars have to show the young men today that Masonry will bring them the peace of mind and understanding of life that we can give them. Everything I hear against men enjoying and coming back to the lodges is the lack of doing anything but attending meetings reading minutes, treasurer's report maybe a meal and discussion of some business and going home. Young men today only want to belong to an organization that they can learn and have action. Masonry can be to the young men that desire which encouraged Soldiers going to war to become Masons before they went into the carnage of the battles of war. Masonry will only survive, the Knights Templar will only survive, if **WE MAKE IT HAPPEN.**

Yours in Christ Jesus
John E. King
R.:E.: Grand Commander



GRAND PRELATE'S MESSAGE

On this Thanksgiving Day, let us reflect upon the virtues of gratitude and unity that define the spirit of the Knights Templar. As we gather around the table with our families and one another, may we give thanks for the bonds of camaraderie that strengthen our order and the principles of chivalry that guide our actions.

In the spirit of the Templar Code, let us express our gratitude for the courage that unites us, the honor that binds us, and the loyalty that sustains us. May the feast before us be a symbol of the abundance that comes from our shared commitment to justice, compassion, and the pursuit of noble ideals.

As we break bread with our families and together, let us remember the legacy of those who came before us, drawing inspiration from their valor and dedication. May our Thanksgiving celebration be a reminder of the strength that comes from standing shoulder to shoulder, embodying the principles that have marked the path of the Knights Templar throughout history.

Wishing you a Thanksgiving filled with fellowship, gratitude, and the enduring spirit of the Templar tradition.

Respectfully
Steven Cox
Excellent Grand Prelate



BEAUCEANT MESSAGE

With a request put forth by Sir Knight John King to write an article for the Templar magazine a memory and soul searching event began. From the moment my husband PEGC Gary announced that he was asked to join the "line" the reality of a new beginning for both of us came forth. It was then that I began to slowly learn about the Social Order of Beauceant, who they were and what they stood for. After receiving a Petition and meeting some of the ladies from the Assembly, I was asked to join and go through the process of Initiation. What a "mysterious" proceeding!. With the eye-opening light at the end of the Initiation I had the delightful sight of my new sisters, all those loving souls surrounding me. These women, who honored their husbands by participating in an Assembly, that supported them, the Knights Templar.

In learning the ritual, one learns the value and importance of each Position in the Cross with each fully supporting the other. It was my personal pleasure in being asked at the start to take the position of Assistant Marshall. Within a few short years I became Worthy President. The year before I held the position of Vice

President, which I dearly loved, because I could recite that beautiful pronouncement, "As Mary and the other faithful, loyal and loving women were gathered around the cross", in its entirety. I felt it enabled all of us to picture ourselves in that place and moment. Each year the members of an Assembly are moved forward to fulfill another obligation and each Assembly is represented in a National Assembly at which time new officers are selected and voted on, from those who have shown and proven themselves to be worthy to carry on in their positions to do all for the good of the Order..

As we are in a position to assist the Knights, my Assembly had determined that they would support the Templar Eye Foundation. This was a cause that I could really relate to because for years I had worked in Home Health Care and all my clients were blind. Our Creator had a plan for me! My contributions are sent with much love.

The love and friendship that is extended in so many ways to each other and especially to those loving God fearing Knights that guide us to who and where we are today. With much love and gratitude to all my sisters of the Social Order of Beauceant I am so thankful for the opportunity to be a member of this Order.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Odendahl
Past President of Assembly 124
Stillwater, OK



Sir Knights at Grand Lodge