

GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF TENNESSEE



Tennessee Knight Templar News



Sir Knight Robert B. Beam, KCT, Right Eminent Grand Commander
November A.D. 2023 / A.O. 905

Edited by: Jesse J. Harper, KYCH



Pictured Above:

Right Eminent Grand
Commander Robert B.
Beam with DeMolay
State Master Councilor
Nathan Kerlin.

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ROBERT B. BEAM
RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER
Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Tennessee



November Message from the Grand Commander

October 21, 2023
Knoxville, TN

Sir Knights,

By the time you read this, our inspections, will have concluded and we will be entering the holiday season and the last few weeks of 2023. I would like to thank all the Knights for their hospitality to me, First Lady Sharon, and my Grand Officers and their Ladies during the inspections. It has been good to see you and to fellowship with you.

Veterans' Day is coming up soon, and I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all veterans and their families for your service. Within my own Commandery we have several brothers who are on active duty throughout the world, and we have many who served during their younger years. Whether you are currently on active duty or served in the past, your service and sacrifice are appreciated. You guard our freedoms and make it possible for us to go about our daily lives undisturbed. Included in this issue you will find my General Order regarding Veterans' Day and Thanksgiving, and I encourage each Commandery to find some way to recognize and thank their veterans and those who are nearby during this time.

Following Veterans' Day, we will observe Thanksgiving toward the end of the month. We have so much to be thankful for, such as the friendships we share, the beauty of the seasons and God's Creation, and our freedom as Americans. In the words of the Apostle Paul, "In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Jesus Christ concerning you." (I Thess. 5:18.)

Over the past several months, and particularly as we prepare for the upcoming year, I have had a number of questions related to uniforms and where to purchase these items. In this issue you will find some information regarding that, and I would like to thank Sir Knight Josh Isner for putting this together. Sir Knight Josh serves as my aide-de-camp and Uniform Specialist, and he has done an excellent job of identifying sources for uniforms. Knights and Commanderies are, of course, at liberty to use any vendor they please. We make no specific recommendation or endorsement of any particular manufacturer or vendor.

Knights, I ask that you remain strong and faithful in your respective Commanderies, and continue to exemplify the tenets of Christian Knighthood taught by our order. As always, thank you for the opportunity to serve and to be counted among your number.

Courteously,

Robert B. Beam
RE Grand Commander

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ROBERT B. BEAM
RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER
GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF TENNESSEE

General Order No. 3

October 21, 2023

Knoxville, Tennessee

To the Officers and Knights of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Tennessee, and to the Officers and Knights of the Constituent Commanderies thereof:

Sir Knights,

During November we observe two very important days: Veterans Day and Thanksgiving. These days are part of the fabric of our culture and national life. They bind us together in spite of all the differences we have as Americans, and they remind us of the sacrifice of those who serve to defend and protect us, and the gifts we receive from God our Father.

On Veterans' Day we express our thanks to those who have served or are currently serving in our Nation's Armed Forces. We still have among us some who saw service in the greatest of conflicts, World War II; others served afterward, and many are even now deployed or on duty here at home. While the fields of service ranged far and wide, and across all branches, all who served are deserving of our thanks and prayers; those thanks should extend to their families as well.

At Thanksgiving we come together as Americans to remember the gifts that God has given us and to pray and give thanks. The first Thanksgiving proclamation was issued by President George Washington, to give thanks for our freedom and form of government; President Lincoln in 1863 set it aside as a day to "heal the wounds of the nation." As Americans, we have many differences, but we should remember that what binds us together is stronger than what separates us. We also give thanks for the material blessings we have, and pray for and extend the hand of charity to those who are in need.

I call upon every Commandery and each individual Knight to engage in appropriate expressions of gratitude during this time, to those who serve and have served our nation so faithfully in the various branches of our military, and gratitude to God for providing for us and preserving us as a Nation. As we observe Veterans Day, let each of us find a small way to say "Thank You" to a Veteran. As we observe Thanksgiving, let us render thanks to God for his many blessings and the freedoms we enjoy. As Christian Masonic Knights, let us set the example to the world of what it means to live a life of gratitude, and extend the hand of brotherly love, relief, and truth to a world in need of Christ.

Courteously,

Robert B. Beam

RE Grand Commander

From the Grand Generalissimo

John L. Palmer, GCT

Christian Chivalric Values

Part 2

Last month we began a series of articles on the "Christian Chivalric Values" as set forth by Sir Knight Richard Van Dorn, the first of which is, "*A firm belief in the Lord Jesus Christ and his church.*" This month we will be discussing the second of these values, "*The courage to confront evil despite the odds of success.*"

Courage comes in many different flavors; courage to face physical danger, courage to stand up for what is right, courage to take action when the results might be uncomfortable for us, and others. We are blessed in our culture to realize that most of the people we know have never really been in a serious fight. Those who have been have a totally different perception of what that means. Our society, today, promotes the idea that there is no such thing as evil; only poor, well meaning, misguided people making mistakes. My experience, however, supports the Biblical view that not only does evil exist, it exists practically everywhere.

I grew up in the 1950's, just when people were beginning to enjoy television. Almost all of my heroes were cowboys, because that is what was on TV. Roy Rogers, Matt Dillon, the Lone Ranger, John Wayne, and Audie Murphy had a profound and positive effect on the development of my character. Since these guys were just actors, I suppose most of the credit goes to the screen writers, but we know that many of the actors exhibited the same high character off screen as on. Saturdays were particularly rich with cowboy shows. One of these was entitled *Have Gun Will Travel*, and the principle character was a man who went by the name of "Paladin." His logo was the image of a chess knight. I later learned that the term "paladin" originated from a group of knights loyal to Emperor Charles the Great in the 8th century. The legends of these knights emphasized their character and their courage.

Courage is not just the will to take action when the result may be harmful to you, it is also the will to take action when there is no doubt that the result will harm you and perhaps even those you care for.

Courage is not the opposite of fear, but rather the opposite of greed, selfishness, and cowardice. The courage to do the right thing is not common among us. The results of this courage in today's world are often monetary loss, the loss of favor with others, and sometimes even stitches. We hesitate to stand up for what is true, because we are afraid. This is the great evil we now call "political correctness." We should constantly keep in mind that when this life is over, our health and well-being as well as our wealth will suddenly disappear and the only thing we really leave after us is our character and the good we have done for others.

When I first read the book, *The Art of Manliness*, I was surprised that one of the required skill sets was "to know how to fight," but this is not surprising once you think about it. How can you protect the weak and innocent if you cannot fight?

One has to prepare to be courageous by resolving to do the right thing and by developing the necessary skill sets. Most of us like to think of ourselves as being brave, but where do we really stand when the rubber hits the road?

Next month we will chat about the Christian Chivalric value of "a commitment to those less fortunate." Stay tuned.

As always, if I can assist you in any way, I can be contacted at:

john.pgm97@gmail.com or

(615) 504-3355 Cell

A Call To Action

By: Jesse J. Harper, KYCH

This plea goes out to all of the inactive Sir Knights who have not attended a stated Conclave or order conferral in recent years. Please come back. Please participate. Please help us reignite the fire in our inactive brethren. Please help us in creating new Sir Knights.

There is a place for you and every other Sir Knight inside of our Asylums. The days of excluding men with physical or cognitive limitations from participation are long gone. As with all of the other degrees in Freemasonry, there are parts in each of the Commandery orders that are non-speaking and have minimal footwork. Modifications have and will continue to be made to accommodate each individual's abilities. If a candidate or Sir Knight can not kneel, then he can remain standing. If a candidate or Sir Knight needs assistance getting around, then a wheelchair or other mobility device can be utilized. Do not let a perceived limitation prevent you from participating. Our Commanderies yearn for our inactive brethren to return and become active again.

Thinking back to our Blue Lodge roots, each and every part and position is crucial to the success of a complete and meaningful degree. This holds true in the Commandery orders as well. The linemen in the Commandery orders have the ability to make the conferral that much more remarkable, and just like the stewards in the Blue Lodge, there is minimal memorization, allowing even the most inexperienced Sir Knights to take an active role. If you are not comfortable taking an active role, then having a sideline full of passionate and dedicated Sir Knights also contributes to the experience for the candidates. There is a place and opportunity for everyone to participate, you just have to be willing to show up.

If we continue to have a poor turnout for our stated Conclaves and the conferral of our orders, then we will never be able to turn the tide of dwindling membership and poor repeat attendance in our newly knighted brethren. If we are not willing to show up and try ourselves, then what makes you think our new Knights will want to continue coming back? It is crucial for our survival as an organization that everyone capable of attending attends as often as they can. If you need assistance with transportation or mobility then reach out to the officers of your Commandery. I guarantee you that you will be provided the help that you need, and I assure you that it is the desire of every Commandery in this state to be busting at the gills with passionate committed Sir Knights. We just have to show up.

DePayens Commandery No. 11

Sponsors

Outreach Review Night

In lieu of their November stated business meeting, DePayens Commandery No. 11 in Franklin, Tennessee, will be holding an “Outreach Review” night.

After dinner at 6:00 PM, the recruiting materials offered by the Grand Commandery Membership Committee of Tennessee will be reviewed and discussed.

These include three PowerPoint presentations and other materials to be used by the Commandries when presenting programs to the local Lodges.

All Templars, especially membership chairmen, battalion officers, and officers of surrounding Commanderies are cordially invited to attend and participate.

The Commandery asylum is located in the Hiram Lodge building at 125 2nd Ave. S, Franklin, TN 37064.

The meeting will be held on Monday, November 13, 2023.

Please let us know if you plan to bring more than two or three knights so that we may prepare adequate food for dinner.

Reserve a meal at john.pgm97@gmail.com 615-504-3355.



As of 10MAY23		Uniform Coat			
Manufacturer	Unit of Issue	Cost(before tax)	Pros	Cons	
United States Manufacturers	New London	EA	\$405	high quality materials, sword belt hooks included. Manufacturer ensure adherence to state and GEKT regulations	higher price point for the added attention to details, trousers not included
	Mayo	EA	\$160	includes sleeve crosses, state patch, and Velcro on shoulders. Low price and includes trousers	Velcro on shoulder is positioned too far inward, buttons would eventually need replaced with Templar cross and crown buttons
	Lighthouse	EA	\$500.00	includes buttons and Velcro, sleeve crosses available for additional charge, trousers included	cannot be purchased as individual items
	Milford Commandery	EA	\$150	Templar buttons included on coat, Velcro on shoulders and sword slit	does not include sleeve crosses, does not include trousers
	OCONUS Manufacturer	Bricks Masons	EA	\$281	Traditional Frock coat appearance, 10 percent off first order,
	Bricks Masons Commander coat	EA	\$302.00	Traditional Frock coat appearance, 10 percent off first order	manufactured as ordered (delayed shipping) does not include trousers

As of 10MAY23		Chapeau			
Manufacturer	Unit of Issue	Cost(before tax)	Pros	Cons	
United States Manufacturer	New London	EA	\$340.00	True to size, manufacturer ensures adherence to state regulations	Additional cost for rosette, additional plumage will cost more, tassel not included, slashing not included
	Fratline	EA	\$328.00	True to size, will inform you of your state regulation on each item, customization available	Price will vary with additional items
	Lauterer	EA	\$375	Construction is fast and true to size(3 weeks) includes rosette, and slashing	curled edges only, head size larger than 7 1/4 additional cost
OCONUS Manufacturer	Brick Masons	EA	\$304	made to order, good quality felting, rosette included, slashing included	longer wait times due to shipping from Pakistan, size runs roughly 1/8 too large

As of 10MAY23		Red Cross and Malta Jewels (only Malta Jewel is mandatory)			
Manufacturer	Unit of Issue	Cost(before tax)	Pros	Cons	
United States Manufacturer	New London	EA	\$22.75	good quality product, will receive item as pictured	lower price available
	Fratline	EA	\$9.50	good quality product, will receive item as pictured	bulk order lowers cost but minimum bulk order is 12
	Lauterer	EA	\$17	good quality product, will receive item as pictured	lower price available
	Milford Commandery	EA	\$12	reasonable price, meets standard, support KTEF with every purchase	lower price available
OCONUS Manufacturer	Bricksmasons	EA	\$40	custom order available to meet regulations	does not meet standards without additional modifications

As of 10MAY23		Sword Belt			
Manufacturer	Unit of Issue	Cost(before tax)	Pros	Cons	
United States Manufacturers	New London	EA	\$156	high-quality materials, Manufacturer ensure adherence to state and GEKT regulations	sell multiple designs, ensure you purchase the proper colors
	Fratline	EA	\$165	High quality, sturdy material prevents sag at sword	higher price point for the added attention to details
	Lauterer	EA	\$150.00	High quality, sturdy material prevents sag at sword	sell multiple designs, ensure you purchase the proper colors
	Milford Commandery	EA	\$90	meets CSD Regulations, best price point found	sell multiple designs, ensure you purchase the proper colors

OCONUS Manufacturer	Bricks Masons	EA	\$103	low cost, visually meets regulations	slightly thin material buckles and sags under weight. Recommend using a load-bearing strap beneath if you go with this belt
As of 10MAY23					
Shoulder Boards					
	Manufacturer	Unit of Issue	Cost(before tax)	Pros	Cons
United States Manufacturers	New London	ST	\$80	high quality, bright colors and sturdy material that will form to shoulders over time	only available in officer ranks, past commander and above
	Fratline	ST	\$49 to 59	optional Mylar and bullion styles	lower prices found with comparable quality
	Lauterer	ST	\$40.00	best price point, once received, they tend to look better than the picture shown on the website	only Mylar available
	Milford Commandery	ST	\$60	Bullion, high quality, support KTEF with all purchases	higher price point for the added attention to details
OCONUS Manufacturer	Bricks Masons	EA	\$56	bullion material, decently priced	manufactured as ordered (delayed shipping)
As of 10MAY23					
Sleeve Crosses					
	Manufacturer	Unit of Issue	Cost(before tax)	Pros	Cons
United States Manufacturers	New London	ST	\$25.75 to \$33	metal and sew on available, reasonable pricing	nonstandard sizes are also sold here, 2 inches is standard
	Fratline	ST	\$10 to \$28	metal and sew on available	sew on slightly smaller in size than standard dimensions
	Lauterer	ST	\$17 to \$22	Standard sizes available, well priced, metal and sew on available	nonstandard sizes are also sold here, 2 inches is standard
	Milford Commandery	ST	\$32	bullion embroidered, standard size, support KTEF with all purchases	higher cost point
OCONUS Manufacturer	Bricks Masons	st	\$38	Bullion, standard size	manufactured as ordered (delayed shipping) does not support local fraternal affiliates
As of 10MAY23					
Gloves					
	Manufacturer	Unit of Issue	Cost(before tax)	Pros	Cons
United States Manufacturers	New London	ST	\$8 to \$9	good quality, rubber dots for grip on \$9 gloves	slightly higher cost than Lauterer, but does have grip
	Lauterer	ST	\$6.50	best price found, meets regulation	only one size available
	Milford Commandery	ST	\$22	durable leather material	higher price point, get warm very quickly
As of 10MAY23					
Sword					
	Manufacturer	Unit of Issue	Cost(before tax)	Pros	Cons
United States Manufacturers	New London	ST	\$496 to \$690	metal and sew on available, reasonable pricing	nonstandard sizes are also sold here, 2 inches is standard
	Fratline	ST	\$59	Low cost	design is slightly off, but technically conforms to standards for frock coat uniform, Black handle
	Lauterer	EA	\$90 to \$690	gorgeous craftsmanship and quality products, economy sword very reasonably priced	some of the higher prices on the deluxe side
Side Note on Swords, Shoes, and Trousers	Replicas are available for as low as \$60 from several other verified sites that meet the standards set forth, search for "Masonic Templar Sword" through Google. My first sword was purchased through the Walmart app from one of their partner sellers. EBay also has options that are reasonably priced.				Shoes are plain black Oxford Style dress shoes, of military style. Trousers likewise conform to the military standard. Black, of similar material and color to the coat with no pleats, pressed to have a crease down the front and back of each leg to terminate at the top of the lap and just before the seat.

INSPECTIONS 2023



CLARKSVILLE #8



DICKSON #41



DE PAYENS #11



PARK AVE #31
ROSEMARK #39



JACKSON #13
UNION CITY #29
LEXINGTON #36



PARIS #16

INSPECTIONS 2023



KINGSPORT #33
ST OMER #19
WATAUGA #25



CARTER #37
GREENEVILLE #43



CYPRUS #23



CHEVALIER #21
CAMPBELL CO #44



COEUR DE LION #9

#	Commandery	City	Stated
1	Nashville	Nashville	3rd Monday @ 8pm
7	Baldwin	Lebanon	2nd Monday @ 7pm
8	Clarksville	Clarksville	3rd Monday @ 7:30pm
9	Coeur de Lion	Knoxville	2nd Monday @ 7pm
10	Murfreesboro	Murfreesboro	2nd Monday @ 7pm
			Even Months and Nov
11	De Payens	Franklin	2nd Monday @ 7pm
13	Jackson	Jackson	1st Thursday @ 7pm
14	Lookout	Chattanooga	3rd Thursday @ 7pm
16	Paris	Paris	3rd Monday @ 7pm
			Jan, Feb, May, June, Aug, Sept, Nov, Dec
19	St. Omer	Bristol	4th Monday @ 7pm
21	Chevalier	Oak Ridge	4th Monday @ 7pm
			Except Mar, May, and Dec
23	Cyprus	Maryville	3rd Tuesday @ 7pm
			After RA or CM
25	Watauga	Johnson City	3rd Tuesday @ 7:30pm
26	Cumberland	Cookeville	1st Thursday @ 6:30pm
29	Union City	Union City	2nd Tuesday @ 7pm
31	Park Avenue	Memphis	2nd Thursday @ 7pm
			Even Months
33	Kingsport	Kingsport	4th Tuesday @ 7pm
34	Athens	Athens	2nd Thursday @ 6:30pm
36	Lexington	Lexington	2nd Tuesday @ 6pm
37	Carter	Elizabethton	3rd Thursday @ 7pm
38	Plateau	Crossville	4th Thursday @ 7pm
			4th Friday in Nov
39	Rosemark	Millington	1st Saturday @ 9am
			After CM #131
40	Manchester	Manchester	3rd Thursday @ 7pm
			Even Months and Nov
41	Dickson	Dickson	4th Tuesday @ 6:30pm
			After CM #107
42	Cyrene	Dayton	4th Tuesday @ 8:30pm
			After CM #140
43	Greeneville	Greeneville	4th Monday @ 7pm
44	Campbell County	LaFollette	2nd Monday @ 7pm
			Even Months

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[Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Tennessee | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/GrandCommanderyKnightsTemplarofTennessee)



Submissions - KTNews.GCTN@yahoo.com

MISSION

The mission of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Tennessee is to provide every Christian Freemason in Tennessee the opportunity and resources to develop, be engaged in, and exemplify a Christian chivalric lifestyle.

THE VISION OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF TENNESSEE

The Knights of the Grand Commandery of Tennessee are a group of men who share the Christian faith, exemplary character, a dedication to excellence and the service of others, and a desire to share the chivalric experience with other Christian Freemasons. Our Knights are actively engaged with one another in accomplishing this goal and in maintaining this standard of lifestyle and behavior.

Request for Submissions!

Sir Knights - We need submissions for the *Tennessee Knight Templar News*. Is your Commandery going to confer any of the orders soon? Did you have some sort of unusual or fun event? Send us an article to share with the other Tennessee Knights and include photos if you have them.

We would also like to have your thoughts and ideas about how we can make Tennessee Templary more fun and exciting. Send us an article!

Please send news and events going on in your Commandery to:

KTNews.GCTN@yahoo.com