

# GRAND COMMANDERY OF HAWAII

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## ARE WE READY? "YES"

**THERE IS NO GREATER JOY**, combined with some degree of sadness, when the term of an administration comes to an end and the deputy, together with the newly elected and appointed officers you have been able to assemble will ascend to their new stations.

Together they have become a strong leadership team able to implement the jointly developed Strategic Plan that will guide them to achieve the Goals you have set and the Vision that has been agreed. Much success.

You can see that your journey with these great men, their talents, time and treasure, combined with individual and group efforts can be measured. You can see the results of your labor emerging from seeds planted over all these years that you have served in appointed and elected officer lines of your Lodge, your Chapter, Council and Commandery or Grand Commandery. Now they can reap the fruits and you will know that you have made a difference.

**SADNESS**, because you know that you will no longer be able to accept ideas, shape them into policies and results, since your station in the East will soon be part of history. However, the lessons learned, the memories made, and the relationships gained will lessen any regret. There will come a time when you realize that Templary is no longer just an organization that you decided to belong and that it has become a way of life for you. It has been my compass for some time.

**TAKE THE NEXT STEP.** Now, it is the time for you to share the wisdom you gained and whisper your thoughts into the ears of candidates, master masons, companions and fraters. As a Past Commander or Past Grand Commander it remains your responsibility to **INSPIRE – INFLUENCE – INNOVATE and INTEGRATE** the Programs and Steps necessary to achieve our overall **VISION**, which is to rebuild our Fraternity in Hawaii to what is once was when our jurisdiction had a population of 500,000. It has

increased nearly three times since, yet our membership has declined. Let us mine the brightest candidates in our community for the benefit of our Order.

## OVER THE PAST TEN (10) MONTHS WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?

### 1. Leadership

- Set our Vision
- Communicate our Vision clearly and often
- Set our Mission and Core Values

### 2. Delegation

- Great Leadership + Great Management = **Results**
- Delegate (Recruit, Empower)
- Set Clear Performance Goals, Policies and Procedures

### 3. Oversight and Stewardship (Most important responsibility)

- Review Specific Performance (weekly, monthly)
- Budget and Finance (Let us rebuild our financial strength)
- Review Compliance
- Manage Risk and Focus on Liability Prevention

### 4. Membership Development

- Retain, Restore, Recruit new Members for our Lodges
- Communicate to find out what Members want
- Ask our Members for their input and active participation

**OUR VISION IS:** To grow the membership of the Grand Lodge of Hawaii from its 1800 to 2,500 members, and Templary from 197 to 700 Knights, actual numbers we enjoyed when Hawaii had 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the population it has today.

On behalf of our Grand Commandery I wish to thank each of the Officers of our Commanderies for their dedication, time, talent and treasure. I also wish to thank our eight (8) Grand Commandery Ambassadors who have stepped forward and focus on the efforts necessary to achieve our Vision.

And to all our Members, my mentors (you know who you are) and dearest friends, it has been an honor and privilege to serve as your Grand Commander for the term 2019-20. I firmly believe it will be a joy for the incoming Leadership Team to continue the efforts and achieve our Vision. And, finally, Mahalo Nui Loa to our families and spouses for supporting and sharing our love for our fraternity.

**ONWARD CHRISTIAN  
SOLDIERS – God Bless You  
In Chivalry,**

*Gerhart W. Walch*

SK Gerhart W. Walch, KCT  
Grand Commander

You are invited to the 2020 Joint  
Annual Meeting of the Grand York  
Rite Bodies of Hawaii;  
and the Royal Ball  
Feb. 22 + Feb. 23, 2020  
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