

# South Dakota



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Herb Cook  
Grand Commander

In January, if our unpredictable weather holds, I hope to travel to Sioux Falls for a visitation. I encourage all Sir Knights to continue working on membership and charity fund.

Best wishes in the New Year.

*Herb Cook*

Right Eminent Grand Commander  
Knights Templar of South Dakota

Sir Knights,

December came in with opportunities to travel and participate in three Knights Templar Christmas Observances.

I First traveled to the Christmas Observance presented by Capital City Commandery #21. To the best recollection of all involved, this was the first Observance presented in about 25 years. It was great to be a part of what is hoped to become a new tradition.

The second Observance was presented by Schrader Commandery #9 in Rapid City, members present recalling about 12 ceremonies presented in recent years. After the ceremony we all gathered for snacks, cake and conversation in the dining hall.

The third was to participate in the 132<sup>nd</sup> Christmas Observance presented by Damascus Commandery #10 of Aberdeen. After the traditional toasts, everyone attending was invited to the dining room for Oyster Stew, Tiger Meat and Fellowship. It was a great evening.

A worthy goal for this year for South Dakota's Knights Templar Commanderies would be for all to be involved in presenting a Christmas Observance. If a Commandery has a low number of members, they could contact another Commandery or two and enjoy working together. The larger group could invite masonic groups, family and friends, to introduce others to our ceremonies and traditions, and perhaps spark some interest.



RE Grand Commander in Capital City #21



Re Grand Commander in Damascus #10