

WISCONSIN SUPPLEMENT

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Charles M. Olson
Grand Commander

From the Grand Commander

Greetings, Sir Knights!

While not exactly how we expected, we have wrapped up the 2019-2020 Templar Year in great form. There was not much time to prepare, and most certainly 'we've never done it that way before'; congratulations to S.K. Parker Dow, P.G.C. and his Annual Conclave team for all their efforts to make our first Virtual Grand Conclave a success. I tip my Chapeau to you, Sir Knights! Well done!! And thank you to all the delegates and members who adapted to the new technology, participated and enabled us to conduct the business of this Grand Commandery. Well done to all of you!

And now, another Templar year lies ahead of us. While there is still uncertainty about how the COVID-19 virus will affect our craft in the near and distant future, we are certain that we will overcome any obstacles ahead to preserve our Grand Commandery. We are learning how to conduct our business in new ways, using new technologies that have the potential to make us stronger in the weeks, months and even years ahead.

Congratulations to S.K. Parker Dow, P.G.C. on an excellent year leading our Grand Commandery. Much was accomplished, but there is still much work ahead. I look forward to serving you and our Grand Commandery as we continue into a new decade for Wisconsin Templary. The darkest of days are now behind us and we are optimistic about our future.

Thank you for your faith in electing me to serve you for the ensuing Templar Year. I look forward to the opportunity as our Corps of Grand Commandery Officers works to promote our craft in general, and Templary in particular. This year we will try some new things as well as stick with some of our tried and true traditions. Everything will be done with one goal in mind, to serve you and improve Templary in Wisconsin.

Our primary goal this year is to work more closely with our constituent commanderies. We want to foster a closer working relationship, so we are more connected, more supportive in helping you with your needs, helping you to work and grow your Commandery. While I believe the Grand Commandery cannot alone achieve our common goal of growing our membership, we can work together as a team to fulfill that goal. It is my expectation that your Grand Officers will be working more closely with you this year. Talk to them. Ask them questions. Ask them for help. If they don't know an answer, they will find it for you. If you need help with your ritual, we will get you help. Let us know how we can help you improve your Commandery.

Your Division Officers should have worked with you to schedule and conduct a School of the Knight for your Commandery or Division this summer. We are hopeful this will be allowed. The more we learn about our ritual, the more confident we become, and the greater the impression on our candidates. Like anything, practice makes perfect. While perfection is a far-off goal, simple improvement is the expectation. Let us learn together and have fun doing it. A picnic is a great ending to a day of learning! I hope to see you at your School of the Knight!

I look forward to spending time with you this year. Tell me how we are doing. What are we doing right, and what do we need to do better? Nobody knows better than you, how your Commandery can grow and thrive. This is YOUR Grand Commandery. You have entrusted us to make it work. We are here to serve you. Help us help you. Strong Commanderies lead to a stronger Grand Commandery. Strong constituent officers lead to strong Grand Officers. The stronger YOU are, the stronger WE can be.

Thank you, Sir Knights! Together we can make this another great year for Wisconsin Templary. I hope to...

See you in the Asylum!

Courteously,

Charles (Mick) Olson, KCT, REGC