



Grand Commandery of Minnesota

## *Knights Templar*

Editor S.K. Tom Hendrickson P.G.M.

Good day to you all, Sir Knights! Unless something strange happens at the end of June, this will be my last time to address you as the Grand Commander of Minnesota. This year has been one of challenge, or great joy, and even a little bit of sadness. But as life and this year has shown us, the only constant is that things can and will change all the time.

Every Grand Commander, while writing his last article, or preparing his report for our Grand Session must think the same things. What could I have done differently? What could I have changed for the better? What did I accomplish in my time in the East? Will the other Sir Knights of this jurisdiction think I met, acted and will part with the dignity that this office requires and is due? I hope, as all of them have hoped, that your answer to the last question is yes.

This year's themes have been Open and Honest communication, as well as transparency of the function of our Grand Commandery. In addition, our theme has been to visit, hoping to jump start Templary in this state, and in each local Commandery. Our Inspection did not happen this year. The antagonist in this equation is, of course, the Virus that we are currently living in. It is my fervent hope that the main item left unaccomplished, a Grand Commandery Inspection, will be completed by our next Grand Commander, whomever that will be. One of the biggest sub-goals of the inspection is to re imagine the Tactics Manual for Minnesota. This, with the leadership of SK David Dumonceaux, our Grand Captain General, as well as the input from all of our Officers has been accomplished. While there is finalization to be performed, we

are ever closer.

Speaking of our next Grand Commander, at the time of this writing, the plan is still to have our Grand Conclave in Alexandria this year. Should that not be possible, by the time this goes to press, you will have gotten the changes we have put in place to make our Conclave successful. Should we be unable to meet in person, we will at least be able to meet virtually to complete our business and elect our new officers. I encourage you all to remember that this Conclave is our annual business meeting, and there are items that we must accomplish.

I have shared some of the other activities that our Grand Officers have been working on in our visits across the state. We have gotten back into a "working" officer corps. The titles don't mean anything, truth to be told, if our Commanderies do not see and interact with us. Again, something that we are always working on, but one thing that is near and dear to my heart.

In closing Sir Knights, while the year was short, the days were long. I hope that you feel that we have acquitted ourselves in the manner that you expected. May the blessings of heaven rest upon all of you, may your lives be filled with joy and peace. I am always reminded of one of my favorite quotes. "O, that a man might know the day's business, ere it come. But it sufficeth that the day will end. And then the end be known. If we meet again, we shall smile. And if not, well, then this parting was well made."

SK Brian K. Dimatteo, KTCH, KCT

(soon to be Past) Grand Commander, Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Minnesota