

Clarence J. Laney
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2019-2020 TEXAS SUPPLEMENT

Hello, Sir Knights,

I know many of you know about our philanthropies. I would like to cover them at this time because I think that they are important to us.

First, I want to talk about the **Knights Templar Eye Foundation (KTEF)**. Since I first became a Knight, the KTEF has spent more than one million dollars to provide eye surgeries for the young and the old. On December 31, 2010, the KTEF changed direction. It shifted to focus on eye research. The foundation has given endowments to certain eye projects and research and has even helped to finance a computer program that works with ophthalmologists in other countries. When they have an eye problem that the ophthalmologist in the foreign country cannot handle, he or she can get online and find out how to handle the case. **Since its inception, KTEF has spent over \$152 million on research, patient care, and education.**

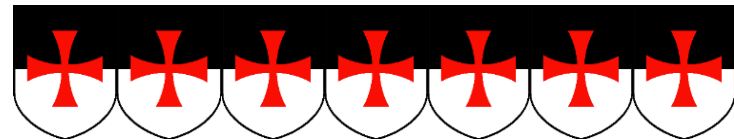
Second, is the **Holy Land Pilgrimage**. Each Commandery can recommend an ordained minister to take a trip to the Holy Land to walk in the steps of Jesus. I want to explain some of the guidelines for selecting these ministers. One of the first things is that he or she has never been to the Holy Land. Next, he or she has to be in good physical health because the average walk per day is 5 to 7 miles. The spouse may not accompany the minister and both women and men ministers may go. They must have at least 10 years of full service. The guides that work with the ministers also explain a lot of the history that was involved during Christ's time.

Third, is the **Knights Templar Education Foundation**. In the State of Texas, we actually have two education foundations which work together to evaluate and award scholarships. **The scholarship is worth \$1,000 for each student.**

The national foundation was set up by the State of Texas and the Grand Encampment. The state education foundation was started by the donation of a past recipient who went to Texas A&M. We loaned him the money so that he could get his education. When he died, he left a large sum of money to the Grand Commandery for the purpose of giving scholarships to future students. The qualifications and eligibility for the scholarship are completing 30 credit hours of college level courses and being a Texas resident. Online there is a drop-down menu under the Grand Recorder's section <http://www.yorkritetexas.org/commandery/forms/lodge/KT-scholarship-form.PDF> and the 10 page application can be printed off. The education foundation evaluates applications 2 times a year. These times are stated on the first page of the application. The completed application must be returned to the Grand Recorder at the stated times. Special Note: if the application is not complete when turned in, it will be automatically set aside.

In His Service,

Clarence J. Laney **Grand Commander 2019 – 2020**



167TH GRAND COMMANDERY CONCLAVE

WHERE: WACO, TEXAS (WACO CONVENTION CENTER)

+724 WASHINGTON AVENUE+

WHEN: WEDNESDAY APRIL 15-SUNDAY 19, 2020

ACCOMODATIONS:

Hilton Hotel on 113 S. University Parks Dr., Waco, TX.

Check out information online and make reservations.

<http://commandery.yorkritetexas.org/Grand-Communication.php>

This is just a reminder that every Commandery needs to have a representative present.

All commanders are required to attend.