

## KANSAS TOPICS

SK Wayne D. Drake

R.: E.: Grand Commander



Salute to the Sir Knights of Kansas,

It seems everything we see or hear today is about *COVID-19*. We just can't get away from it, but it has dramatically changed our lives. In fact, I think some of the things we used to do will be changed forever. Not all bad but changed none the less. That being said our South Central Conference, which was going to be held this month on Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup>, will no longer be an in-person conference. We are deferring like a lot of organizations to a tele-conference. This is not an ideal arrangement but it does give us a chance to get the conference done. There is nothing better than seeing everyone face to face and enjoying social communication. The human interaction cannot be compared to looking at someone on a computer screen. However, there are some advantages. We do get to have our conference, and Kansas gets to host it again, next year in Overland Park. Those Sir Knights who have not attended a South Central Conference because of the expense of travel will be able to attend from the comfort of their own home. It gives every Sir Knight in the State of Kansas a chance to attend. Pretty neat! This is your opportunity, Sir Knights, do your best to be there. If you have not already, you will be receiving information on how to attend.

If you are given the opportunity to serve as a Grand Commandry Officer, please, do not let it pass. This is quite an honor and you, being asked, speaks to your good character. Our numbers aren't as great as they once were but our work is still very rewarding and important. I wanted my motto for this year to be "*relight the candle*". This was in an effort to get inactive Sir Knights active again. I am still dedicated to this task and serving as a Grand Commandry Officer will indeed relight your interest in Commandry. We have so much as a group to give and so many inactive Sir Knights who could provide us with much knowledge. Since this pandemic has slowed things

down, if you get the chance to visit with another Sir Knight do so and pick up all the valuable information you can. We will be active again and that knowledge will be put to good use. It has come to my attention that some Sir Knights who have been called upon to serve as Grand Commandry Officers have purchased their own uniform regalia. This is okay to do but not necessary. It is an expense you don't need to shoulder. The reason being when you leave the line you can't wear Grand Commandry regalia. If you go through advancing line to Grand Commander your regalia will be replaced with the purple of a Past Eminent Grand Commander. If you are called upon to serve, please, do not purchase those items. The Grand Commandry will provide you with the items you need. Sir Knight Wayne Rolf, REPGC, does a great job of keeping track of the necessary regalia. Items included; Officer Jewel, Shoulder Boards, Rosette, Belt Buckle, 4 Sleeve Crosses, Officer Notebook and in some cases Ladies Jewel. You are just required to maintain them in good condition, and return them when your term has expired. Hope this clears the water. Any questions may be directed to me or Sir Knight, Wayne Rolf, REPCG.

Sir Knights, it is a pleasure for me to be able to communicate with you every month in this magazine. I guess, it's kind of not fair because you don't get a chance to tell me what you think. Please, feel free to contact me by e-mail or phone if you have any issue you would like to discuss. I could use your input and knowledge. Also, if you would like to write an article for this magazine, I could make that happen, just let me know. This pandemic will pass and we will meet in person again. I am sure that like me, you are looking forward to those days. Stay safe and healthy, you are in my thoughts and prayers.

God Bless you all,

*Sir Knight Wayne D. Drake*  
Right Eminent Grand Commander  
of Knights Templar of Kansas

