

# Connecticut

S.K. James S. McNeely, IV, KTCH  
Grand Commander



## Knightly News

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Sir Knights,

Happy New Year! It is my sincere wish that 2021 is a prosperous and healthy year for all of our Sir Knights. While I know that many are breathing a sigh of relief that 2020 is over, we can not get careless. We must continue to not only be smart but continue to be socially distant and utilize the tools that have allowed our Commanderies to continue to operate during the past eight months. It has been during this time that we have seen an increase not only in the amount of education occurring but the quality of what is being presented. I truly believe that because of the quality programs and the adaptation of fellowship for a virtual environment we are seeing Sir Knights attend their Commandery for the first time in years. While many of you have heard me discuss the membership struggles that we have and that our average age is not a strong point during the middle of a global pandemic, I, truly believe that many of the tools that we have learned to use will be a strong point once we are able to return to our asylums and partake in that fellowship in person.

It is with that though in mind that I lift a glass and offer a toast to all of our Sir Knights – May your days be long, may your family be close to heart, may your friends always be at your side no matter the miles, and may you keep fellowship with your Fratres all your days.

May 2021 be fruitful and Until I see you down the road...

James S. McNeely, KCT, KTCH  
Grand Commander

### **Knight Templar Education Foundation Updates**

The Knights Templar Education Foundation of CT will be continuing its support of our scholars amidst the mayhem of the COVID, and the grant program for 2021 is now open for applicants, reports Chairman, SK William L. Miller. Open to students of CT residency planning to enter or completing their college or trade school studies, but without regard to any affiliations to Masonry, an applicant is required to prepare and submit all required information no later than March 1, 2021. Recognizing that the COVID may have some influence on the availability of academic records, applicants should start early and work with their guidance counselors to prepare a complete dossier. For those continuing in their studies, an updated dossier is required, and a grant award is not automatic.

The forms which detail the requirements and qualifications for grant consideration are available from Chm Miller, or Records of your local Commandery. Awards will be announced in May. Address your requests for forms and information to SK William L. Miller, 4 Aspen Rise, East Granby, CT 06026; phone 860-716-0004 or email: [william.l.miller@snet.net](mailto:william.l.miller@snet.net).

### **Grand Commander's Request for Help**

One of the best parts of being Grand Commander is that I have the opportunity to recommend a Sir Knight to the Grand Encampment for the Knights Templar Cross of Honor. The KTCH is the highest award that can be presented to a Sir Knight and each year one may be selected. It is intended for outstanding service to Templary far beyond the normal expectations of a Sir Knight. While that sounds simple and straight forward it does require that Sir Knight be recommended by their Commandery and then forwarded to the Grand Commander. Thus, I am asking that each Commandery consider forwarding a nomination of a Sir Knight for the Knights Templar Cross of Honor. The only limitation on who is eligible, is that he may not have served as an elected Grand Commandery officer (past or present). If you have questions please contact me via phone or email: [jsmcneely@msn.com](mailto:jsmcneely@msn.com)

James S. McNeely, KCT, KTCH  
Grand Commander

**HAPPY NEW YEAR  
FROM THE OFFICERS OF THE  
GRAND COMMANDERY**