

## NORTH DAKOTA SUPPLEMENT

www.ndyorkrite.org/gckt SK Greg Taylor RE Grand Commander





## Warm Fraternal Greetings!

As I write this, I am preparing to take the reins as Grand Commander of Knight Templars in North Dakota. What an exciting time we live in as we emerge from the pandemic and look forward to returning to our many masonic groups. This fall we will be celebrating the Triennial with our very own Grand Master of Knight Templars, Most Worshipful SK Jeffrey Nelson in Minneapolis. I hope that you are planning to join us in representing North Dakota!

A bit about my family...I am 50 years old and live with my wife Christie with whom we will be celebrating 25 years of marriage (August 10th), my daughter Allison who is turning 22 this summer will be switching from teaching 6th grade to 1st grade in the fall, my son Ryan who is almost 17 will be a junior in high school. He keeps busy with football, baseball, basketball, golf and fishing while maintaining a 4.0 GPA and my puppy Beau (a black labrador retriever). I am going on my 9th year of masonry (which started soon after accomplishing one of my goals of earning a black belt in Shotokan Karate) and am at that stage where everything is still new and exciting and knowing that there is so much more yet to explore and learn. For my day job, I teach students with special needs at a public middle school in Grand Forks (this will be my 29th year working in the education field). I very much enjoy teaching middle school age students and feel that it keeps me young. Working with teenagers who have disabilities just adds to the challenge and feeling of accomplishment.

My masonic history - in the York Rite - I am the past Eminent Commander, Illustrious Master and High Priest in the Grand Forks bodies. I am currently the Secretary/Recorder for the Grand Forks bodies. I am the past Grand Recorder for Knight Templars in North Dakota. As of July - in addition to being Grand Commander, I will be Deputy Grand Master of Cryptic Rite Masons as well as the Cryptic Rite Ambassador for North Dakota. I am honored to be a Companion of the Secret Vault. In the Chapter I will be the Grand Scribe. I am an Officer in the York Rite College and am honored to be receiving The Order of the Purple Cross at the end of July, thus becoming an Associate Reagent. I am a life member of the Order of Scotland. I have a life membership in KEM Shrine. I am an Officer in the Commemorative Order of St. Thomas of Acon (Sir Bruce of Bellefountaine) Saskatchewan Chapel No. 67. I will become the Sovereign Master of the Allied Masonic Degrees this fall. I am also a member of the Red Cross of Constantine, Knight Masons, Holy Order of Knight Templar Priests and Froth Blowers. In the Scottish Rite, I am a 32nd Degree KCCH. I am a Past Venerable Master and current Valley Secretary and Almoner. I am the Celebrant of the North Dakota College of the Societas Rosicruciana in Civitatibus Foederatis (SRICF). I was elevated to the 8th Grade (Magister) and thus became a permanent member of the High Council.

This past year - I have been busy in York Rite by working with our fellow Sir Knights from the Fargo Commandery to conduct joint degree work with our Sir Knights up here in Grand Forks. This has been highly successful and is just the beginning of a long term fellowship wherein we can enhance the experience for candidates by having larger casts - thus making things more fun (and easier)! We created four new Sir Knights this past May with the holding of The Order of The Temple in our beautiful theater in our Grand Forks Temple. Plans for the coming year...I plan to continue building upon the success of uniting Grand Forks and Fargo by including not just Commandery Dais Officers but the entire Commandery Grand Line in reaching out across our state to make us more successful. I plan to join with our western Sir Knights to continue building up our presence in the Williston area in the hopes of creating a new Commandery! So, if I do not see you in Bismarck for our Grand York Rite this July, I hope to see you in Minneapolis for the Triennial, or in my journeys to the North Dakota Commanderies this coming year and hopefully for the Grand York Rite Sessions in July of 2022 in Grand Forks!

In Hoc Signo Vinces,

SK Gregory Taylor,
Grand Commander of North Dakota