

GRAND COMMANDERY of OHIO
State News for October, 2021
Web Site: <https://ohioknightstemplar.com>
SK R. Thomas Starr, KCT, REGC



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The 179th Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of the state of Ohio will convene on Friday, October 8, at 8:30 AM at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North, 6500 Doubletree Ave., in Columbus, Ohio.

Registration for Sir Knights and Ladies will be available Thursday afternoon and Friday morning in the foyer adjacent to the Grand Ballroom.

Distinguished guests will be received and the business of the Grand Commandery will be conducted in two sessions on Friday morning and Friday afternoon. A drill captain's meeting will be held at the conclusion of Friday afternoon's session, followed by our Divine Service and the Grand Commander's banquet on Friday evening.

Drill competition and Ritual competition will be held on Saturday, along with the Award's banquet and installation of 2021-22 Grand Officers on Saturday evening.

Hospitality rooms will be available for Divisions that wish to host.

As of this writing, there is a mask mandate for public buildings within the city of Columbus. We will update visitors if there are changes to this ordinance.

The Sir Knights and Ladies of the Southeastern Division look forward to welcoming guests from across Ohio and jurisdictions throughout Grand Encampment.

A Word of Thanks

This is my final opportunity to write our Ohio supplement as Grand Commander. Now that the supplement is only available online, spread the word so our members can find it each month on the Grand Encampment website or on the mobile app as it remains a fantastic tool for the Grand Commander to communicate with the Sir Knights.

A column of 100 pages would not be enough to appropriately thank everyone who has been a part of my journey to the highest station in the greatest jurisdiction in Grand Encampment.

I certainly want to thank the editor of this supplement, Jeff Slattery, for arranging this section so perfectly each month. Thanks also to Dale and Judy Exline and Larry and Lisa Byer who have worked tirelessly in organizing our Grand Conclave, along with the membership of the Southeastern Division. You have been supportive and generous with your time, talent, and resources over the years. More than I deserve but most appreciated, nonetheless.

The Brothers, Companions, and Sir Knights I have served alongside over the years taught me to listen more than speak and encouraged me to not be satisfied with "good enough". The ladies who support their Sir Knights and Commanderies in a million ways will always have a special place in my heart. Proceeding through this officer's line without a lady is difficult, but there was never a time when I needed help that our ladies didn't come to the rescue. I sincerely appreciate your friendship.

Serving as Grand Commander has been the greatest honor of my Masonic career. It was a tough year in many ways, but I am thankful we went through it together. May God bless the Sir Knights and Ladies and the Grand Commandery of Ohio!

In Knightly Courtesy,

R. Thomas Starr, KCT, REGC