

# THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF NORTH CAROLINA

State News for SEPTEMBER, 2021



## Grand Commander



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Greetings Sir Knights,

Autumn is almost here, Sir Knights. From now until the end of the year, we enter into the busiest part of the year for the Commandery. Several activities are being planned across the state that I would like to bring to your attention. Please bear in mind that at the time this is being

prepared, it sounds like there is a possibility that new COVID protocols may be issued. The Grand Commandery will keep you informed of the status.

## Degree Festivals

We will begin with several degree festivals across the state that will hopefully bring a good number of new members. If you have candidates that would like to receive the degrees and orders but could not make it to your local degree festival, please contact your district officer or one of the grand line officers, and they should be able to direct you to one of the others taking place elsewhere in the state for courtesy work. Be sure to contact the secretary from the host body in advance.

## Homecoming Parade in Oxford

On Saturday, October 9, the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford will be holding their Homecoming Parade. The Grand Commandery is planning on organizing a unit of Knights Templar to participate in the parade. The parade is followed by the barbeque contest where lodges compete to see who makes the best barbeque. I am hoping to have a large group of Knights present to make Templary visible to our communities and to other Masons. We also want to show our support from the Children's Home as well.

## Christmas Observances

Later on in December will come the Christmas observances. Even though this is several months away, now is the time to get started on planning for the event. Many of the bodies have learned that if you are planning to schedule musical entertainment for the observance, you will be hard-pressed to find anyone available in November. For the bodies that have not put on a Christmas observance in a long time, perhaps this might be the year to consider putting one on. It is not very difficult and does not require any memorization. However, some appropriate planning will make things go much smoother. If you need some sample scripts, floor setup diagrams, or other information, please reach out to me or one of the Grand Commandery officers and we can provide that to you.

## North Carolina Templary Bicentennial

Finally, December 18<sup>th</sup> marks 200 years of Templary in North Carolina, as this was when the first Commandery was organized in Fayetteville (in 1821). Fayetteville Encampment No. 1 went dormant sometime after 1826.

During that time the original charter was lost. A new one was re-issued in 1850, but the location moved to Wilmington. The name was changed to Plantagenet Commandery No. 1 in 1889, and still continues to work to this day. The members of Plantagenet No.1 and Palestine No. 20 (in Fayetteville) are planning a commemorative event to mark this important milestone. More information will be forthcoming.



## Castle McCullough

This year the Greensboro bodies will be hosting a conferral of the Order of the Temple at Castle McCullough in Jamestown, NC on Wednesday, October 6 [ed. Please note date correction]. Candidates are asked to arrive between 2:30 p.m. and no later than 4:30 p.m. and meet in the Crystal

Ballroom for registration, orientation, and final preparations. The cost will be \$100 per candidate, and the funds will go to the Holy Land Pilgrimage fund. Candidates are limited to the first 40 verified registrants due to space constraints.



Admission for guests and non-degree cast is \$35 and are limited to the first 30 verified registrants due to space constraints.

For more information and to register, please go to the following website:

<http://weareknightstemplar.com>

### Local News:

**New Bern** – On August 7, the New Bern York Rite Bodies held their Fall Degree Festival. There was a great turnout and several new Sir Knights received their Chapter, Council and Commandery degrees.



**Greensboro** – Sir Knight Christopher Wright was awarded The Knight Templar Cross of Honor at the August 4 stated communication of the Greensboro Bodies. This award is only given to one Sir Knight per state per year for exceptional and meritorious service rendered to the order, far beyond the call of duty, and beyond the service usually expected of an officer or member.

### Breaking News:

The Grand Encampment has passed a resolution allowing the use of the old-style triangular Templar aprons. I would like to take this opportunity to point out a few important things to keep in mind before you decide to go and purchase one:



1. The aprons are approved by Grand Encampment but still need to be approved by the Grand Commanderies. If put forward for legislation this year, it will be voted on at our next grand conclave in March.
2. If approved, the black aprons can only be worn inside a tyled Asylum. There is a different white apron that can be worn for public events.
3. The aprons are part of and an addition to the uniform. They are not a substitute for the uniform.

More details on this are forthcoming.

### Important Dates to Remember:

**October 6:** Order of the Temple at Castle McCullough, Jamestown, NC

**October 9:** Homecoming Parade at MHCO, Oxford, NC

### Coming Soon:

#### **November:**

Southern Pines Veterans Day Parade

#### **December:**

**December 18:** NC Templary Bicentennial (Wilmington / Fayetteville)

Wilmington Christmas Parade

YOUR Local Christmas Observance Events – start planning NOW!

### **We Need Your Help!**

Please send event news from your local commanderies to us for inclusion in the State News! Submissions must be received by the first of the month for inclusion in the upcoming edition. Please send emails with subject line “KT State News” to the editor. Space is limited, and submissions may be altered to fit.

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