



Grand Commandery Knights Templar South Dakota



February 2022 News
Jake Smith, Editor
jake3404@yahoo.com



Roger Hansen
Grand Commander

If you have been paying attention to the happenings of the Grand Encampment, then you definitely know that there are some things coming up. For those who have not been paying attention, I direct you to the Grand Encampment website to get the full details. I do want you to be aware that a special conclave has been called for March 12, 2022 in Ft Wayne, Indiana. If you are interested in attending then I again direct you to the Grand Encampment website for information or you can contact me, your editor.

I don't want to get into any political opinions of who is right or wrong or what was done was right or wrong. Those discussions are best to be done at the special conclave or within your own Commanderies. However, in these turbulent times I like to look to our Masonic lessons and find a way to navigate through them.

Recent events have caused me to gravitate to some very special lessons that we all tend to forget in Freemasonry. After all, we are all Freemasons first and Knights Templar second. Some may disagree with my opinion on that, but I point them to the requirements to be a Knights Templar. First and foremost, you must be a Mason. Without it, you cannot be a Sir Knight.

The Freemasonic lessons that I think apply to our current issues are the tenets of a Mason. Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. Masonry teaches us to regard the entire human species as one family. By this Brotherly Love, we are indebted to aid, support and protect each other. Freemasonry also teaches that we are linked together by an indissoluble chain of sincere affection. And it is by this chain we establish our friendships and connections. Finally, Truth...it is regarded as a divine attribute and the basis of every virtue. To be good and true men is the first lesson taught in Masonry. I underline that sentence for emphasis because I think there has been a disconnect from it which has led us to the current problems. Truth...is the very foundation of our organization. Without it, we lose our distinction and honor among society. When one progresses to high distinction and title in an organization, they oftentimes lose sight of the basic principles.

No matter what happens in March, we must remember another lesson, *“here we are bound by the most solemn ties to promote each other’s welfare and correct each other’s failings, by advice, admonition and reproof.”*

Your Editor