

January 904 A.O.

2022 A.D.

North Dakota Knights Templar

From the Desk of Grand Commander

Right Eminent SK Gregory Taylor

Sir Knights,

As I write this supplement I reflect back on so many things in my life to be thankful for...God and his son, our Savior Jesus Christ, family, friends, Brothers, Sir Knights, a family dog, a satisfying job which also provides enough to pay the bills and save a bit the eventual hope of retirement off in the distance.

I also reflect back on those Brothers and Sir Knights who we have lost this past year due to COVID or other causes. PGC Tony Telken for one was a huge loss to our North Dakota Commandery. SK Tony was, as most of you know also, one of the Aide-de-Camps to PGM Jeffrey Norman Nelson and a Past Grand Master of Masons in North Dakota. Tony was only 56 and passed from COVID. Please Sir Knights, get your shots and boosters!

Annual North Dakota York Rite Sessions will be July 7th-July 10th at the Hilton Garden Inn in Grand Forks, North Dakota. The Commandery session will be held July 9th. Hotel details have been mostly worked out with great rates on rooms and suites negotiated. Meals have also been planned along with many of the details to make this a successful session. Details will be posted on our website ndyorkrite.org as we firm everything up. We hope to see you there - mark your calendars now!

Happenings across the state...

- in Grand Forks, St. Aldemar Commandery #3 is alive and well under the command of SK Jesse Stephan. SK Stephan is not only the Eminent Commander in Grand Forks but currently serves as Grand Standard Bearer. He is also our local membership chair as well as our State Eye Foundation Chair.
- In Grand Forks, we currently have two candidates who are working their way through the York Rite Bodies. In Fargo, there are currently four candidates. There are plans to once again combine Commanderies to hold joint Commandery Orders with Grand Forks and Fargo. All candidates across the state are welcome to join us. Please contact me if you are or know of candidates wanting to complete their journey towards becoming a Knight Templar (who wouldn't).

- Budget News, for the first time since 2016, we have budgets created and set for both Commandery and the Chapter/Council. A big thanks to the following Sir Knights for helping with this...SKs Rognlin, Kvasager, Steele, Gauslow, Stephan, and Most Illustrious Grand Master Regohos.
- Lifetime Memberships - thank you to SKs Kvasager, Rognlin and Telken for their help in updating the lifetime membership accounts and sending out payments to each of the local bodies...this had not been done since 2016. SK and Grand Secretary Rognlin really took the lead in helping us get this up to date - thank you!
- Eye Foundation - North Dakota is blessed to have the International Eye Foundation Fundraising Chair SK Lon Kvasager and our state Chair SK Jesse Stephan at the helm. We are pushing our members to purchase their lifetime membership for the one time donation of \$30. We are also holding a raffle in the hopes of raising an additional \$1,500 to help North Dakota reach 100% paid life membership. The cost for tickets are \$20 each o (6) tickets for \$100. You may contact myself or SK Stephan to purchase the tickets. He will be traveling to each Commandery prior to the drawing to be held on July 9th at the York Rite Annual Session banquet. The main prize for the raffle will be an AR-15 with (2) gift cards as other prizes. If you have not yet, please consider these great options to support OUR charity.
- New Member information - the International Knight Templar website has some great resources for you including this member packet - it is likely great information even to those who have been Sir Knights for a while - check it out!
<https://knightstemplar.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/KTNewMemberPacketO3National.pdf>

*May the White Brilliance
Of the Supreme Crown
Descend upon you,
And may you rest in peace
Beneath the shadow of the wings of that Mighty One,
Whose name no man may utter.*

-Paul Foster Case

Fraternally,

SK Gregory Taylor
Grand Commander
North Dakota
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