



GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR LOUISIANA



Knight Templar State News
July 2022



Commander: REGC Charles Bertrand
Website: <https://www.yorkritela.org>

GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

To: The Officers and Sir Knights of the Grand and Constituent Commanderies of Knights Templar of Louisiana

As The summer approaches I would like for everyone to reflect on the lesson of the 24-inch gauge - we should divide our time equally. We also need to include time with our family. So, as I take this summer to spend with my grandchildren who range in age from 9 months to 18 years, I hope to reconnect with bonds that I've allowed to slip away through the years and I did not take the time to make the proper connections with them until now that they're teenagers.

With the passing of two of our past grand commanders over the last two months the lessons that we were taught come more and more into focus. of a young man, of an old man, and a man passing through the gates receiving his rewards.

We need to continue to work on:

1. Membership – Recruit, Restore, Retain
2. MMS Roster – Communication for Retention (emails, phone numbers, and addresses)
3. Building an excel spreadsheet that has a list of all Knight Templars listed with contact information - next is a list of all those who were Sir Knights we might Restore
4. 100% Knight Templar Eye Foundation \$3300 dollars to go 200% \$31,560 participation goals
5. Holy Land Pilgrimage Endowment Fund to underwrite annual ordained minister pilgrimages so any commandery may be successful with their nomination
6. Educational Programs every month – Again, Retention
7. Festivals – Fun and Recruitment

PGC Keith Gates established the Holy land Pilgrimage medal endowment fund as an integral part of our completely new Constitution approved in 2019. We need to promote that endowment fund so that we can build our foundation that helps send an ordained minister to the holy land every year. We have established a method to make small recurring credit card payments with Sir Knight Scotty Adams S2HScotty@gmail.com , Sir Knight Wilson Cook wilsoncook@icloud.com, and the Monroe Valley to make monthly credit card payments until you reach \$1,000. We also have other ways that a Sir Knight can achieve the medal with monthly payments. If interested please contact the Grand Recorder or your Local Recorder. Our goal is for at least 10% of all Sir Knights wearing this medal at the Grand Conclave next year.

South Central will be held in Sam's Town, Shreveport, la. September 16-18, 2022. As soon as the meals get approved, we will have the information on the web site. We need to attend and represent Louisiana with the most Sir Knights.

Shreveport will have a Festival on August 27th Ascension Commandery
1805 Creswell St. Shreveport, La. 71101 Commandery Recorder – Albert G. Simms, PC

If you are a Facebook member or you have friends that are, please have them like our page. We are now at 1800. I would like to reach 5000 this year. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/lagrandyorkritebodies/>

The Monthly New Letter will be adding a Bio of the elected Line Officers and we begin with our Grand Senior Warden, Brad E. Williams

Lived all my life in Sabine Parish in the small community of Florien, LA. I was raised by a close, hard-working family. I have always had the support of my family in whatever I was involved in. Graduated Florien High School (1984) and Northwestern State University (1987).

Been married 19 years to my wife, Beckie who patiently supports me in all my Masonic endeavors.

Started working at our family business at the age of 13 years old, worked for 20 years. When we sold our business I started a new career at Boise Cascade, Florien, Louisiana, where I am still employed for a total of 22 years. Beside my job at Boise Cascade, I have several investment properties myself and with other family members.

Other interest I have include traveling, working on my Model T cars with my dad and collecting antique radios, etc.

Influenced by my father at the age of 26 years old to become a Mason, I joined Florien Lodge #26 in May of 1991. That same year, in December 1991 I was elected Junior Warden. Since then, I have been Worshipful Master seven times and Treasury nineteen times and counting. I belong to the Leesville York Rite Bodies, Shreveport Scottish Rite, El Karubah Shrine, OES, and other appendant York Rite Bodies.

As your State Membership Chairman, some of my duties are:

1) Recruitment

Set an annual goal to recruit new Sir Knights and communicate that goal throughout the Jurisdiction. This requires commitment to reach out beyond our Chapters, Councils, and even Blue Lodge's. Also, to our families, friends, and business associates, encouraging them to become members of our Fraternity.

2) Retention

Retention of our current members is one of the most important functions, if not the most important function of our membership committees today. Make the meetings fun, short, and involve as many members as you can.

3) Retain

This again, is one of those areas of membership where we seem to have failed almost completely. We have spent a great deal of time and effort to recruit new members only to let current members fall by the wayside as a demit or suspension for NPD. We need to try to contact them and revisit their reasoning and determine if there is anything we can do to rectify or fulfill those hopes or desires that we have failed.

I ask each of you to help fulfill these goals.
Sincerely

Brad E. Williams
Eminent Grand Senior Warden,
Grand Commandery of Louisiana

I am sending this out to each Knight Templar in the state of Louisiana. I hope to encourage you to attend your next Commandery meeting. Please let me know if I can assist you in any way. My phone # is 985-860-9308.

Always remember to put on the Armor of God, (Ephesians 6:10-18).

Onward Christian Soldiers
Charles Bertrand, REGC, Grand Commandery, Louisiana
"Chivalry, Christianity, Templary – A Way of Life"



Sir Knight Howard Entwistle, PDC, presented Al Sims with the Grand Encampment Knight Commander of the Temple Award.

Grand Encampment of Knights Templar



In the Name of our Lord
Whom the College of Honours having under its jurisdiction the
distinguished services rendered by him to Freemasonry is nominated

Sir Knight
Alvin S. Mallatin Sr., Jr.

Knight Commander of the Grand Encampment of our Order

Now we with the sanction of the Grand Encampment of Knights
Templar, do by this Patent of Honour, create, and constitute him
to be a Knight Commander of the Grand Encampment, giving and granting unto him
all the Rights and Privileges therein belonging, under the Statutes of
the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar.

In Testimony thereof, we have signed this Patent of Honour to be
sealed with the Seal of the Grand Encampment.

Given this 29th day of [Month], 1922, A. D. 904

⚔ *D. J. Karsman*
Grand Master



Laura E. Jucker
Grand Recorder