

GRAND COMMANDERY of OHIO
State News for June, 2022
Web Site: <https://ohioknightstemplar.com>
SK George Edmiston III, KCT, REGC



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Greetings Sir Knights!

I want to thank Sir Knight Edward E. Fodrea, now a Right Eminent Past Grand Commander and the new Grand recorder of Indiana, for the honor of being a Ritual Competition Judge at the Grand Conclave for the Grand Commandery of Indiana in April. My Lady Pam and I enjoyed our time in Muncie, Indiana and look forward to attending in future years. Also, congratulations to Sir Knight Philip D. Whisner who was installed as the Right Eminent Grand Commander of Indiana! In addition, I would like to congratulate Sir Knight H. Lee Hadley on a very successful year and Grand Conclave in West Virginia in May!

As Christian Knights it is important to remember one of the most important cornerstones of our faith. Forty days after Easter and the resurrection of our Lord and Savior we celebrate his ascension as he goes to prepare a place for us so that where he is, we may be also. It is important to note that all Commanderies in Ohio are required to celebrate this significant occasion and therefore have attended services in celebration of the ascension of Christ in their commanderies and churches across the state of Ohio.

The month of May was filled with travels which included two Knights Templar Military Balls and several York Rite Festivals around the state. On Saturday, May 7th, the Eminent Grand Standard Bearer, Sir Knight Larry H. Haines, and I had the great pleasure of visiting Middletown Commandery where the Southwestern and West Central Divisions came together in Middletown to confer the three Orders of Templary on 14 new Knights Templar, visited Mount Vernon



Commandery in Columbus to attend the East Central Division York Rite Festival where all of the Chapter Degrees were conferred along with the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross and the Order of Malta, and then the North East Ohio Military Ball at the Tadmor Shrine in Akron. The image above is of some of the Sir Knights in attendance at Middletown, the image on the left is of me with the Eminent Commander of Columbus Commandery, Sir Knight Benji Okwunabua in Columbus, and the image on the right is



from the Grand March at the North East Ohio Military Ball in Akron.



On Saturday, May 14th, several of the Grand Commandery Officers and the Sir Knights of the Northeastern Division led a procession for our Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Officers of Grand Lodge of Ohio, and the Brethren in attendance down West Broad Street in Newton Falls, Ohio for a reconsecration ceremony for Newton Falls Lodge. We also posted the Colors prior to the start of the ceremony in the Lodge room. The image on the left is of a few of the Sir Knights assembling in front of the Masonic Temple prior to the procession.



Afterwards, the Eminent Grand Warder, Sir Knight Perry E. Coxson III, and I then traveled to the Northwest Ohio York Rite Festival held in honor of Sir Knight Kenneth D. Chamberlain, Aide to the Grand Recorder R&SM, in Findlay. The image on the right is of Sir Knight Chamberlain.

I would also like to extend a special thank you to the Sir Knights of the Northwestern Division for the honor of conferring the Order of the Temple at their York Rite Festival.

On May 19th I had the special honor of presenting a 65 year award to Sir Knight Jack A. Norton at Massillon Commandery No. 4's Stated Conclave. The image on the right is of some of the Sir Knights in attendance that evening including Sir Knight Norton.



Saturday, May 21st was a York Rite Festival in Canton, Ohio which was very well attended. It was a great day in Freemasonry which included a surprise visit from Sir Knight Timothy S. Wheeland, Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ohio and a



contingent of Grand Officers who traveled with him. We sincerely appreciate the support of our Grand Lodge. The image on the left is a picture of our Grand Lodge Officers entering the room in Canton and being

greeted by R. Wesley Weber, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work R&SM, Rodney L. Carr, Most Excellent Grand High Priest RAM, David G. Weimer, Most Illustrious Grand Master R&SM, many other Grand Officers and Brethren, and myself. I would also like to extend a special thank you to the Sir Knights of the North Central Division for the honor of conferring the Order of the Temple at their York Rite Festival.

After the York Rite Festival, several of us traveled to the East Central Division Military Ball in Zanesville where a great time was had by all. The image on the right is a group picture that was taken just following the Grand March and includes a large portion of those in attendance.



On Saturday, May 28th a York Rite Festival was held in Warren, Ohio which was organized by Sir Knight Ronald B.

Lankford, Grand Aide. Great job Sir Knight Lankford! The image below is some of the Sir Knights present at the end of



the day. The day started with our Most Excellent Grand High Priest welcoming everyone, included casts from the 16th, 17th, 19th, and 20th Capitular Districts, the 7th and 8th Cryptic Arches, Sir Knights of the Northeaster Tempar Division, and many Grand Officers of

the York Rite Bodies including the Eminent Prior of Ohio Priory No. 18, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons, and Grand Commandery. Special thanks to Warren Assembly No. 77, Social Order of Beauceant for their support and the wonderful lunch!

June will also be a very busy month in Ohio. Lady Pam and I wish you all safe travels and hope to see you in our travels!

Sincerely and fraternally,

George Edmiston III, KCT

Right Eminent Grand Commander

Grand Commandery of Ohio