



Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois



SK John M. Sansone
Grand Commander

Editor: SK John T. Riedas SR, REPGC, KCT john-olvr@att.net

Illinois State News for May 2022

Greetings Sir Knights of Illinois,

The month of May is a very important time for the Commanderies of Illinois and for all of our York Rite. We are preparing to elect our officers and leaders for the next year. All too often we are inclined to elect “Pasts” to fill leadership positions. When this becomes the norm the Commandery, or any organization is in failing health. Many times, we look to the best ritualist to fill leadership seats or the Sir Knight who has always been the Recorder to remain in place. How many times have we seen a Commandery who relied on one or two Sir Knights to keep the Commandery alive, then one day they are unable and the Commandery is adrift without a rudder? Every Sir Knight who has knelt at the Triangle has something to offer to the future growth of their Commandery.

The time to begin to see where future leaders will come from, is when they are Knighted and beginning their chivalric journey. A Sir Knight with a few whiskers and/or close Companion should take this opportunity to introduce the Sir Knight to the many much needed Jobs, not just offices, in a healthy Commandery. This is the time when the newly minted Sir Knight is still trying to figure out what just happened and excited for what will come. You may find the new Sir Knight is a good organizer, an event or function planner, a financial or administrative wizard, a teacher, a Social Media expert, a ritualist, a historian etc. They have no clue where they can fit in with this new group of characters, so we need to help them discover their role. Every Commandery has a place for any Sir Knight willing to help or serve. Do not run the risk of scaring a new Sir Knight away by electing him as Commander before he knows what that is.

Our inspection season is over for this Chivalric Year. Many of the Commanderies have been struggling to come back from the Covid shutdowns. We have lost a few “Go-To” Sir Knights that have always been there when we needed help. We need to groom their replacements and put in changes to be more self-sufficient as a Commandery. Each Commandery should work on a succession plan to replace the “Go-To” Sir Knights when they move to Florida or the Great Encampment with our Lord and Savior.

I hope that every Commandery has determined how to use the grant money sent to them from our Charity. These times are hard for many people in the communities where our Commanderies operate. When we deliver alms to the needy, we are acting as good Christians and fulfilling our

obligation as Sir Knights and Masons. Food pantries and local agencies dedicated to helping those less fortunate to acquire to necessities of life are in need of assistance themselves.

Save the Date

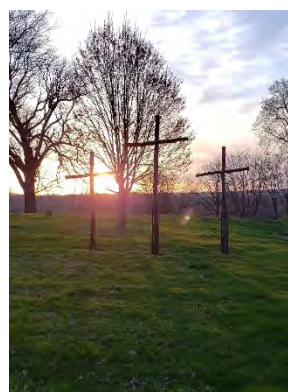
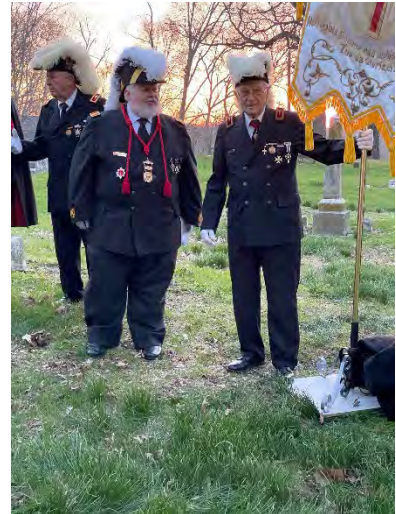
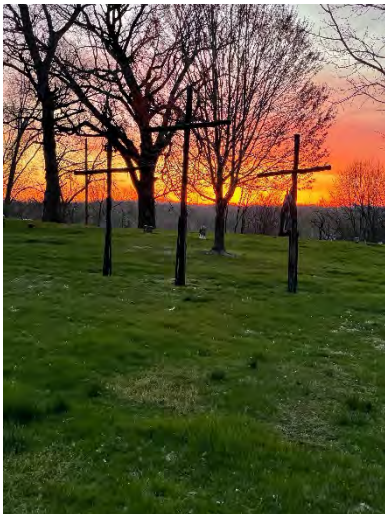
Mark your calendars Sir Knights. Our Grand Conclave will be held on Saturday July 30 in Springfield this year. Headquarters will be at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel. Plans are being finalized and more information will be available on the website www.kt-il.org soon. If you can, please plan to support our Grand Chapter on Thursday July 28th and Grand Council on Friday July 29th.

I would like to thank all the Sir Knights who participated in their Commanderies Inspections this year. I hope every Sir Knight returns as your Commanderies miss you and so do your Companions.

Stay healthy and God Bless,

John M. Sansone, Grand Commander

Easter Service in Petersburg IL



Check the Grand Commandery website for latest updates