

Templars of the Plains

A Publication of the Grand Commandery of Kansas

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May 2022

Roger Walls, REGC 2021-2022



The Grand Finale

Sir Knight Roger Walls, Right Eminent Grand Commander, 2021-2022

Regretfully, but with boundless joy, I submit this as my last article as Grand Commander of the Knights Templar of the Grand York Rite of Kansas. I have immensely enjoyed the year, or 10 months, as the case happened. My travels across Kansas and the neighboring states have been a pleasure and highly rewarding. Wherever I went the brothers received me and everyone I met gave me due recognition.

In all my travels, the fellowship and companionship were the best. I made goals as I entered this position, and can graciously and very proudly say, as of July 2, 2022, I will have accomplished most of those goals. My greatest goal was to have the York Rite Degrees performed in Liberal, Kansas, and with the assistance of SK David Eckert, "MISSION ACOMPLISHED," the work has been set. Living in Abilene, I am close to the middle of the state, and I realized the miles involved in visiting the eastern part of the state and visiting the several Commanderies there. In the west and south, the fellowship was just as great and just as meaningful as I visited Kingman, Hayes, Newton, and Liberal. I must admit my shortcomings as well as I wanted to make more visits to the west. I herewith extend my apology to the western commanderies I missed. I did my best to be an ambassador for the Grand York Rite of Kansas.

My moto for this past year was, "FROM SUCCES TO SIGNIFICANCE," and as I celebrate my success for the year, I hereby pledge my full support and dedication to the Grand Commandery and the Grand York Rite as a whole. All the knowledge and wisdom I have gained in accomplishing my success, and sustaining my failures, I want to pass on to those who follow me and share with them my lessons learned to enable them in their endeavors to accomplish their goals for the next year and build upon the path that I have laid. I doubt not that their year will be greater than mine. I see the future of our order as a bright and wonderful progression with the great line of officers coming up.

I pray that the presence of God leads the officers in their progression and that they be strengthened by the power of our savior Christ Jesus, and always be in communion with the Holy Ghost—

AMEN
SO MOTE IT BE

Our Charity

Sir Knight Patrick C. Carr, Grand Warder, 2021-2022

Sir Knights: Our charity, the Knight Templar Eye Foundation, is always in need of our support. Please read the letter from Sir Knight David Kussman, Most Eminent Grand Master of the Grand Encampment and President of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, concerning what our charity does. Prayerfully consider what each of us can do from our charity in the next year. Visit www.ktef.org for more information on how you can support our charity.



The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. is pleased to announce the latest publication of our informational booklet. The booklet provides a brief history of the formation of the Foundation as well as information on the programs and sponsorships the foundation offers as well as the sponsored programs to fulfill the mission to “improve vision through research, education, and supporting access to care.”

We have learned over the years that our efforts in funding pediatric ophthalmology research have been the primary reason that we have had fewer and fewer children with strabismus (crossed eyes) to treat. Our research dollars have helped develop new, non-surgical treatments for this problem.

The Foundation has grown to \$162 million while expending \$166 million on research, education, and patient care. The Foundation is continuing to invest into more research and the improvement of the quality of eye care not only here in the United States but around the world. The Foundation has awarded over \$34 million in research grants and \$10 million in endowments at five of the leading ophthalmology research and educational institutions.

Any donation will assist in making a tremendous difference in the lives of children by helping the Foundation to fulfill its mission “to improve vision through research, education, and supporting access to care.” By preventing blindness or restoring vision to a child you are helping us assist in enhancing that child’s quality of life.

We hope you will assist us in our efforts in finding the cure for the many eye diseases in pediatrics.

David J. Kussman