

## Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Michigan

Daniel E. Stewart, Right Eminent Grand Commander



August 2023

Sir Knights,

This will be my final newsletter as your Grand Commander and I look at it from two sides: I am sad that my term is over, but I am happy that we are well on our way to a brighter future for Michigan Templary.



### Monthly Mentor Reflection "Passing the Torch"

It is that time in our Chivalric Year that one must step aside and another step up into the office of Right Eminent Grand Commander. I have done as much as I can during my term and I look forward to continuing to serve in various roles. I am proud to say that we have an extremely effective leader coming behind me, SK Jay Kennedy VEDGC who I served with for the last 5 years when we joined the Grand Line on the same day.



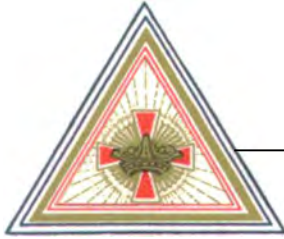
Jay Patrick Kennedy was born in Detroit, Michigan on March 31st, 1979. He has been a Mason since June 2000, having been Raised in St. Andrew's Lodge #7 (PHA) in Ypsilanti, MI. Jay was Knighted in Detroit Commandery No. 1 in December of 2007, and served as Commander for the 2016/2017 Commandery year. He was elected to the station of Grand Junior Warden at the 2017 Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Michigan in Bay City. Jay is currently the Global Lead, Anti-Counterfeiting External Relations for Amazon, where he guides world-wide public policy, PR, legal, business and tech teams' external messaging and engagements that relate to brand protection and anti-counterfeiting. Jay is married to Lady Brandi (Ellis) and the two have three beautiful daughters: Jaime, Aria and Bree. In the limited free time that he has, Jay enjoys golf, woodworking, and Formula 1 racing.



### August 2023 Events and beyond...

Michigan Grand York Rite Session – August 17-19, 2023. Double Tree Hotel in Bay City Michigan. Reservations are pouring in and should be a great time for all in attendance.

2023 Bark River Inspection Tour – September 14 – 17, 2023 – SK James Rutherford, GSW, has setup a wonderful event schedule for our time in the Upper Peninsula as we inspect Commanderies of the Northern Battalion located in St Ignace, Marquette, and Iron Mountain.



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### York Rite in Action



#### Traverse City DTE Energy Foundation Cherry Royale Parade - July 8, 2023

Sir Knights gathered to march in the parade showing off the various approved uniforms for Michigan Sir Knights. Summer uniform, Class A, and Ancient Regalia.



#### 2023 Great Lakes Masonic Convocation and Cryptic Education Symposium – July 15, 2023

A wonderful day of education was provided by presenters from around the State and Country as the 4 Michigan Lodge's of Research came together for a first of hopefully returning annual events. Presenters on that day were: Dirk Hughes (MI), Jeff Bennett (TX), Jonathon Ferguson (MI), Arturo de Hoyos (VA), Matthew Parker (NE), and Chris Potts (MI). Master of Ceremonies for the day was Brandon Mullins, and the day completed with a panel discussion as show in the photo. MIGM Robert Cooper also played a role in helping to organize the event, and it was very well received.

Thank you for a wonderful five years!!

Yours in Templary,

*Daniel E. Stewart*

Daniel E. Stewart KCT  
Grand Commander  
Grand Commandery of Michigan