



Grand Commander



Brandon Penley

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We Need Your Help!

Please send event news from your local commanderies to us for inclusion in the State News!

- ✳ Submissions must be received by the 20th of the month for inclusion in the upcoming edition. Submissions may be altered to fit.
- ✳ Please send emails with subject line "KT State News" to the editor.

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Grand Commander's Message

Greetings Sir Knights,

I hope you have all had a wonderful month. I want to thank all who attended the Great Smokies Summer Assembly this year. I want to thank all who helped make the picnic a great success on Sunday July 9. I want to thank the Summer Assembly committee for the hard work they do each year to make this event a great success. I also want to thank Sir Knight Ray Casey for his willingness to step up and fill in for me when my work schedule would not allow me to be at the events on Monday and Tuesday, July 10 and 11. If you have not yet attended Summer Assembly, I would encourage you to do so next year on July 14, 15, and 16. This is always a great event and serves for many as a time for fellowship. It is a time to get to know other Sir Knights and their families. I hope you will all make an effort to attend next year.

Most Illustrious Grand Master Billy Poteat and I along with several other grand officers had the privilege of attending the NC DeMolay State Association Honors Investiture at Monroe Lodge on Sunday, July 23. I want to congratulate State Master Councilor Anthony Barrile on receiving the degree of Chevalier, Sir Knight David Ladd on receiving the Cross of Honor, and Sir Knights John Barrile and Doug Moore for receiving the Honorary Legion of Honor. I want to thank each of you for your participation and support of the DeMolay. The members of youth groups such as DeMolay and the Rainbow Girls are our future and I truly believe that the survival of our Great Fraternity depends on them. We must as Sir Knights and Masons do what we can to help maintain and grow these youth organizations. I want to encourage each

Sir Knight to continue to support these great youth groups.

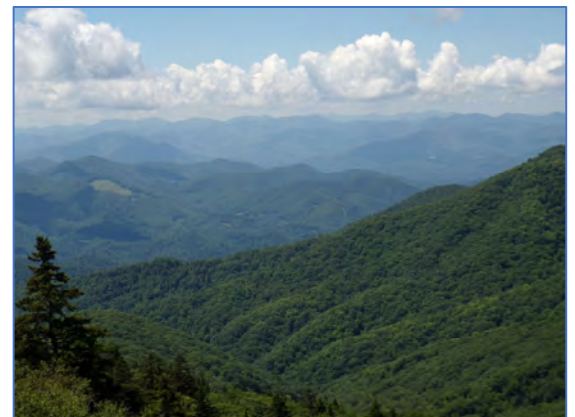
The next topic I want to talk is one of the Grand Encampment Charities. The charity I would like to mention is the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. We now have a new chairman for this charity in North Carolina. I would like to thank Sir Knight Michael Pritchard for his willingness and excitement to take over this position. From day one, he hit the ground running and I am inspired by the amount of dedication he has given to raising money for all of our masonic charities. I have looked over the documents and information that Sir Knight Michael has presented at our district meetings and I truly believe that the Knights Templar of North Carolina can achieve one hundred percent life sponsorship for the eye foundation by the end of 2023. This is a worthy goal for the eye foundation who aims to improve vision through the research that they perform. I hope you will all consider donating to the eye foundation which will help to assist them with the research to achieve their ultimate goal of improving vision for everyone.

May God Bless You All.

Fraternally in Christ,

Brandon Penley

Grand Commander



The weather was beautiful for this year's Summer Assembly. Hope you can join us next year!