

GRAND COMMANDERY OF OKLAHOMA
Knights Templar State News for August 2023
Web Site



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GRAND COMMANDERS MESSAGE

This has been an interesting two months of our annual inspections. We have had Commanderies that stood inspection and those that did not. I fully understand the problems of today's Masonry. It is sometimes impossible to get enough members to attend the stated meetings and other events.

The Grand Commandery does not inspect the constituent Commandery in order to criticize the organization or the members. The inspection is nothing more than performing the necessary ceremony and order that makes our new members. The Blue Lodges that cannot do the EA, FC and MM degrees are not bringing men into the fraternity. The Commandery has three orders. Two of these can be performed in short form. The Order of the Temple is probably one the most enlightening presentations in Masonry. It brings the connection and dedication to The Christ Jesus to the Candidate and he is Knighted a Soldier of The Christ Jesus. The Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and The Council of Cryptic Masons are in the same manner. It has become easier to send new candidates to festivals than to do their degrees in the local Chapter, Council and Commandery. We are losing the Candidates personal participation in his degrees and Orders which are intended to give them the feeling of belonging.

I was extremely pleased with the number of New Knights, created at the Grand Commandery Festival honoring our Grand Master, who attended their local inspection and reception of the Grand Commander. At two of the meetings there was the full complement of Sir Knights who had attended the festival. The third had all but two new Sir Knights. I did meet one of the absent Knights, whose enthusiasm was greatly evident. He was acquiring a uniform and asked me to help him with learning the signs. He also informed me that he was researching the ancient Knights Templars to be more knowledgeable of what we represent. Some of the new Knights were working in chairs in place of those who could not attend. When a new Sir Knight walks through the door, find something that strikes his interest. Find him a position even if it is filled, to learn as a backup. Let him practice that position so anytime the chair is empty he will be there and feel of value to the Commandery. When you move people up it will be a place to put him.

Practice is not just something we do for an inspection. It is our duty when we accept a position to stay proficient at it. Practice can sometimes only include two or more. When a Candidate becomes available the Asylum is ready to bring him or them into the fold. Help each other to learn the language and the floor work.

Yours in the Christ Jesus

John E. King

R  E  Grand Commander

RECEPTION OF GRAND COMMANDER AT ARDMORE NO. 9



A PICTURE WAS NOT TAKEN AT THE MUSKOGEE INSPECTION. I AM INCLUDING A PICTURE OF THE MAGNIFICENT MASONIC LODGE WHERE THEY RESIDE.

BRINGING GREETINGS AT DEMOLAY CONCLAVE



RECEPTION OF GRAND COMMANDER AT ELK CITY NO. 22



INSPECTION AT OKLAHOMA 3



THE YOUNGEST AND POSSIBLY THE OLDEST OF THE OKLAHOMA GRAND COMMANDERS



INSPECTION AT LAWTON NO. 18



56 CANDIDATES AT THE GRAND MASTERS FESTIVAL



RECEPTION OF GRAND COMMANDER AT MCALESTER NO. 6